

THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Eccliaistical Affairs.

"EXTINGUISHED."

WE borrow the above title from *Punch*; whose cartoon, we presume, most of our readers will have seen. It is not our intention, of course, to criticise a joke which will scarcely bear criticism, and which does but exhibit our once thoughtful, generous, broad-hearted, and witty contemporary, on that lower level of opinion which has appeared for some years to constitute the highest sphere in which his wit can coruscate; but we take both the cartoon itself, and the motto intended to give it significance, as suggestive of that aspect of the question of disestablishment which is assumed to be most in accordance with the ascendant mind of the times.

For obvious reasons we shall not deal with the topic suggested by our contemporary in any personal sense. Whatever becomes of the man who introduced the Motion of July 2nd into the House of Commons—whether he is destined to disappear, or whether the shape in which he submitted the question to the lower branch of the Legislature was or was not a confession of weakness, this much, we think, must be admitted on all hands, that the question for which about a hundred members have recorded their votes, will long continue to be a living question, and, in all probability, a growing one, let what will befall its present advocates. The future of the policy urged upon the House of Commons by Liberationists is not to be seriously influenced by ever so confident an assumption that it is dead.

We have been somewhat amused, and, to a certain extent, we confess, disappointed, at the tone taken by what may be fairly described as the secular organs of opinion, on the debate and division on Mr. Miall's motion. There is (so to speak) a gregariousness, we might almost say a mechanical imitiveness, in the papers of the day, more especially of the metropolis, in regard to all questions that have not decisively established themselves in the convictions of the public, which tends somewhat to lower one's estimate of their judgment. We agree with Mr. Gladstone in thinking that the provincial press is a more trustworthy guide of genuine public opinion in this country, than most of what are called the influential and leading metropolitan organs. Newspaper public opinion

resembles very much in its action the ballast which is put on board a ship. So long as it is confined within certain well-defined limits it is of great use in giving force and steadiness to the mind of the reading public. But in relation to questions of the future it resembles ballast unsecured. Any sudden lurch of the vessel throws it out of the centre of gravity, and it moves from side to side *en masse* wherever it is doomed to encounter cross and chopping seas. Now it is all disposed to concession, and anon it laughs to scorn the demands which it was previously inclined to concede. The phenomenon is not at all an unnatural one. We have scarcely a right to complain of it. But, unquestionably, its true character has to be taken into account in estimating the real position of any great public question.

We venture to say, then, that the object of the Liberationists is not quite so decisively set on one side by the discussion of July 2 as many of the organs of opinion would have the world believe. To us, we confess, the chorus in which Mr. Miall's defeat was celebrated, appeared quite out of keeping with the incidents of the occasion. There was nothing in the debate, as it struck us, calculated to fill the hearts of the friends of the State Church with that satisfaction which their organs have expressed. So far as Mr. Gladstone uttered his own thoughts, we cannot, for the life of us, perceive in what respects he gained a logical triumph. The true interpretation of what he said on the motion simply amounted to this—"You are not strong enough to do what you want; we have no wish that you should do what you want; and when what you want has to be done, as perhaps it may have to be done, it will require an immense effort of statesmanship to do it safely and well." Now this is precisely what has been said in its turn to all questions of great political importance. And whenever it has been said by any leading statesman to those who are engaged in making the future history of their country, the majority, of course, or what is taken to be majority, both in and out of Parliament, is very apt to adopt the conclusion that the question is for ever "extinguished." It is a great mistake. It will prove to be a great mistake in the present instance. It is not thus that truths which have in them an essence of life can be trampled out of existence. Mr. Gladstone may jump upon them with all the weight of his intellectual and moral nature, and the outer world of fashion, respectability, and culture, may follow his example. It has been done before by that eminent statesman and by his admirers in regard to several questions of first-rate magnitude which are now settled, but even Mr. Gladstone, backed though he may be by an overwhelming majority in the House of Commons, can't give immortality to an institution that is essentially unjust. Let the Liberationists be denounced as they may—let their aims be characterised as impracticable, and their efforts to give effect to them be met with derision—this is their comfort. They have got hold of an inextinguishable principle. They are content whilst they contribute towards, to share also, its destiny. It is no matter of astonishment to them that the tide of public opinion should have its periodical ebbs as well as floods. They know how to estimate the

shouts of a majority when they are against, as well as when they are for, the object they have at heart. And they are sure enough that the successful emergence of the truth from the clouds which have gathered around it, will call forth from those who now undervalue its importance, that homage that is always paid by the majority to a cause when it is triumphant.

RESULTS OF DISESTABLISHMENT IN IRELAND.

AN article under the above title, in the present number of the *British Quarterly Review*, written with remarkable ability and perfectly exhaustive in its treatment of the subject, brings before English readers such information concerning some of the results of disendowment in Ireland as will be likely to create no little indignation and astonishment. It is written, of course, with a feeling of entire sympathy with the policy which carried the great measure of 1868; but showing, as it does, how that policy has been, to a great extent, defeated by the action of the clerical party, it conveys a pregnant warning to all those who are looking forward to the disendowment and disestablishment of other Churches. Disestablishment has been perfected, although all its natural consequences have not yet ensued; but disendowment has been a delusion and a farce. Agreeing, as we do, with the writer that "it is important that English voluntaries should have an exact understanding of all the circumstances and effects of this measure, because the day of civil establishments of religion in other parts of the kingdom is evidently drawing to an end," and that, therefore, "it is wise and necessary to guard against such mistakes as were undoubtedly committed in winding up the affairs of the Irish Church," we should like to put the reader in possession of the substance of what is to be found in these pages.

The steps which immediately followed the Act of Disestablishment are familiar to all, and scarcely need recapitulation. We know how a "Synod" was formed, and what were the first acts of the new Church Body. The proceedings of that Body have been, from time to time, chronicled in these columns, but it is worth while to sum up its net results down to the present time. As regards constitution, all males of twenty-one years of age, who declare themselves members of the Church, are allowed to vote as vestrymen. These choose a "select vestry" of twelve from their own number, with the addition of the ministers and two churchwardens. The lay delegates to the diocesan synods must, however, be communicants. Such synods consist of the bishop, the clergy, and one lay delegate from each congregation. Above them is the "General Synod," consisting of all the archbishops and bishops in Ireland, 208 clergymen, and 416 laymen chosen by the diocesan synods. So far, well, and the writer says, truthfully, that it was expected that such a lay element would be sufficient to check any sacerdotal feeling, and carry out effective reforms. But this hope has been frustrated by the provision that the representatives in the synod shall vote by "orders," that is to say, that there shall be a certain majority of each order to give the power of law to any proposal. This constitution explains a great deal of what has taken place. The laity have, to a great extent, been defeated, and the progress of reform has been checked. For ourselves we do not for a moment suppose that it has been effectively checked, but, on the contrary, see symptoms of ultimate and decisive victory. What remains, however, of the priestly, sacerdotal and Roman element in the Irish Free Church, is wholly due to the law which gives the bishops or the clergy the power practically to veto the decisions of an immense majority of the laity.

The vote on the revision of the Prayer-book brought this fact into most significant promi-

nence. It was proposed to change the words "Receive ye the Holy Ghost" into a prayer; this was defeated by the bishops. It was proposed to define the manner of Christ's presence in the Lord's Supper, but although 389 voted for the proposal, and only 114 against it, the clergy defeated it. It was proposed to modify the Absolution formula, but this again was defeated by the "vote by orders." It was proposed to omit the Athanasian Creed, but, although 192 voted for the omission, and it was carried by an absolute majority of 86, there was, again, not the requisite majority of the clergy. Recapitulating these facts the writer is of opinion that the prospect of revision is slight. We do not think so: it will simply take longer time than was anticipated. Neither in Ireland, nor any other country, will sacerdotalism be able long to hold its ground. And, after all, it does not belong to us to criticise with any severity what has been done or not done in this direction. The Irish Church is a Free Church, and if it should ultimately choose to be priest-ridden we may deplore the fact, but must acknowledge that it has a right to do so.

Regarding disendowment, however, we may fairly hold other language, and it is not using too strong language to say that in this matter the Irish nation has been deliberately swindled by the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church. We have more than once put before our readers some facts on this point, especially as to the wholesale manufacture of curates in the last days of the existence of the dominant Establishment. The writer thus describes what took place:—

Immediately after the Act became law, however, the Irish Church woke up very suddenly to the necessity of strengthening her clerical staff; long lists of dioceses were published in the newspapers; the bishops in every diocese had their hands full for months, giving titles to orders to a very promiscuous crowd of applicants. These candidates for orders consisted, in many cases, of "literate" of the lowest grade, some of them as ignorant of theological science as destitute of general culture; of students whose prospects were not encouraging; of old Presbyterian probationers who had long lost the hope of obtaining a settlement; of young men who had been gardeners, and could not spell; of bankers' clerks who had never been in a college; and, in one case, of a youth who had passed six months of imprisonment in a county jail! It seems evident, therefore, that the men who have been foisted into office by a narrow and equivocal opening are not of a class to redound to the credit of the Church, or to extend her usefulness. Indeed, during the last ten days of the period preceding the actual disestablishment, the bishops seemed intent upon nothing but the rapid multiplication of curates. The object, as every one knows, was not to strengthen the working capacity of the Church, but to create a new mass of life interests. The whole proceeding was in direct opposition to the spirit of the law, involved an evasion of all its conditions, and was so apparently designed to overreach the State that honourable men blush even to refer to it.

Glaring instances of this are given, such as the following:—

In the town of Belfast alone, the Episcopal Church is five times better endowed than before, for its clergy now receive 6,628*l.* a year against 851*l.* received before disestablishment. If these sums are capitalised, then Belfast lost 19,000*l.* and received back 99,000*l.*, or, adding 11,000*l.* received for church-building since the Act passed, 114,000*l.* In the diocese of Dublin there were seventy-three curates employed in 1868 at a charge, mostly defrayed by the incumbents, of 6,000*l.*, but now the return is 117 curates, at a cost, not to the incumbents, but to the nation, of 17,000*l.* In the parish of St. George, in Dublin, the rector, the Rev. Mr. Barton, paid, his two curates 75*l.* a piece, but the nation now pays them 140*l.* additional, while two other curates have been appointed to a free church in the parish at salaries of 200*l.* and 100*l.* respectively. In the parish of St. James, Dublin, the Rev. Mr. Tomlinson had one curate at 50*l.*; he has now two at 125*l.*, each paid by the nation. Archdeacon Lee, of St. Peter's, paid out of his own 1,000*l.* seven curates at a salary of 75*l.* each; he is now allowed 1,083*l.* for himself, and 525*l.* more, should the annuities of the curates cease otherwise than by commutation, while those annuities have been fixed, four of them at 250*l.*, one at 200*l.*, and one at 150*l.*, thus taking more than another 1,000*l.* from the public purse. The same sort of thing has taken place all over the country.

Four hundred new curates were manufactured in this way at an expense of 40,000*l.* a year to the nation.

The glebe-houses come next. Our readers will recollect how this matter was fought both in the Lords and the Commons. There was no necessity for the fight, for the clergy have overreached us all. Notwithstanding the obvious intention of the Act, "the glebe-houses have passed without a farthing of charge into the hands of the episcopal clergy, and a surplus of about 300,000*l.* realised for the purpose of re-endowment." And this in the face of a clause which provided that ten years' rent should be paid for them! The thing has been done, and done within the letter of the Act. How? This was the way:—

Incumbents commute their interests in their glebe-houses at the full value, then they buy them back with part of the commuted capital at the nominal or reduced value specified in the statute. The clergyman thus remains in his house as before, and receives an increase of income equal to one-third of his life-interest in his house, and the representative body receives the re-

maining two-thirds as their benefit from the transaction. Surely our legislators must have been singularly remiss or remarkably stupid not to have foreseen such an inconsistent and unexpected result.

An elaborate review of the total financial results of disestablishment brings out some analogous results. We need not follow all the figures, but, having taken the trouble to check some of them, we are not able to say that they contain any apparent exaggeration. There was to be a total surplus from Church revenues of 5,320,624*l.*, but this surplus was charged, and it appears certain, from the way the Act has been worked, that this surplus will be nearly, if not altogether, exhausted in various "compensations," which amount, in the aggregate, to more than 6,000,000*l.* The actual net sum which the writer expects to be realised for the benefit of the Irish nation from the disendowment of the Church is about 20,000*l.* This is all that will be available for those national purposes prescribed by the Act. The end is, or is likely to be, that, with the voluntary subscriptions and donations that have been received, the Irish Episcopal Church will be richer than it was before the Act was passed.

We need not follow this subject further, but there can be no question that, as is advised, the members of the Liberation Society should study it with care. Most assuredly, there will be no repetition, either in England or in Scotland, of such a history. But this history has a higher moral than any merely financial one. Would any but members of an established Church, who had been demoralised by centuries of dishonourable history, have thus prostituted themselves for greed? The course of property held by a Christian Church has never received so significant an illustration. Is it supposed that this "ill-gotten gear," as Goethe calls it, will do it any good? However, all this was done in the days of the Establishment, of which it can be said that its last history was only in harmony with its first. A brighter and purer time is coming.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

Some two months ago we called attention to a nice little scheme which was being hatched in the House of Lords, whereby five clerical nominees, as opposed to four lay nominees, might remove almost any church from the city of London, with or without the consent of the parishioners, sell the land, and, with the proceeds, proceed to the erection of churches elsewhere. No doubt the Union of Benefices Act has not worked remarkably well, for, although some of the clergy wish the churches removed, the parishioners have no such wish. So there the churches, like sepulchral monuments, stand, tenanted by few except the dead, and, for the most part, utterly useless to the living. It is an abuse, no doubt, but abuses exist all through the Establishment, in every diocese and in almost in every parish in the kingdom. Of course they ought to be removed; the question is, how are they to be removed?

There might be several answers to the question, but those who brought in the Union of Benefices Act Amendment Bill into the House of Lords, and who have sent that bill down to the House of Commons, came to the conclusion that the best way to remove the abuses was to let certain clerics do as they thought proper. It is proposed that there shall be a commission of inquiry, which, after investigation, shall frame schemes for the union of benefices, give compensations, assign new benefices, erect new parsonage-houses, remove churches, and erect and endow new churches elsewhere. All this is to be done, and the parishioners are to be left out in the cold. Not long since the Bishop of Winchester said that the church and the clergyman and the revenues existed for the parish, and not vice versa; but, here, the parishioners are ignored, and, strange to say, they are resenting the circumstance. This property—worth its hundreds of thousands—does it belong to "the Church," or does it not rather belong to the parish? The parishioners, believing, perhaps, what the Bishop of Winchester has said, think the latter, and are no doubt surprised to find that the bishop is against them. But they are taking steps to obtain something like an equitable settlement of the matter. The Corporation of London petitioned against the bill on Monday, and, although it was down for a second reading, that reading did not come on. Mr. Walpole's name is at the back of it, and perhaps Mr. Walpole may take Mr. Gladstone's hint as to those measures about which there is nothing either to hope or to fear, and withdraw it for this session. If he should not, he may find it slightly difficult to carry it through committee. Meantime, such a measure must not pass without some practical protest.

This is an instance of the clergy seeking to over-

ride the laity, and there is, this week, another instance of clerical jealousy of lay influence. We refer to the debate in Convocation on the reform of that body. A committee of Convocation proposed, some time since, that the number of members of the Lower House be increased so as to obtain a stronger and perhaps more faithful representation of the lower order of the clergy. But there are many who think that this will not be sufficient, and that the laity ought to be admitted, whereupon the Bishop of Oxford said:—

What I am anxious should go abroad is this—that not any one in this house has the least wish that the laity should not take their full part in the administration of the affairs of the Church, but that we see no means of helping forward the cry for having the laity in this Convocation. I would suggest to the House that so long as the Catholic Church of England is established by law, and is in connection with the State, it is entirely impossible that there can be any lay representation of it, which is altogether severed from the lay representation of the land. While we remain the Established Church, the House of Parliament must be the lay representation in the sense of the legislative body of the Established Church. The clamour to obtain laymen to legislate in Convocation is really in my judgment only another mode of asking for the disestablishment of the Church—to remove its legislation from the National Council and to substitute a private lay council for it.

What next is to lead to disestablishment? Does the bishop really think—he does not say so—that the laity are in favour of disestablishment, and that, therefore, they dare not be trusted? With this thought, even the *Record* asks:—

But why should a true and adequate representation of Church opinion be more fatal to the establishment than a one-sided and untrue one? Why should the reality be more dangerous than the sham? If the action of a true Convocation of the Church be fatal, on whose shoulders lies the responsibility but on theirs whose strenuous and unremitting effort it has been for years to recall Convocation into activity, and who have delighted to call its utterances the voice of the Church of England? A puppet Convocation, which is too weak to exercise any real power, the bishops approve; but a true Convocation, really representative of the Church, and therefore rich in moral force, spite of all legal and political restraints, they consider to be ruinous.

Perhaps, after all, the bishops are wise in their generation.

The Burial Service has been under consideration in the Lower House of Convocation, and we are indebted to the Dean of Westminster for an exceedingly able, interesting, and kindly vindication of the rights of the "unbaptized." The dean recalled the origin of the rubric upon this point, tracing it to Augustine and the early Latin Church, who believed that even infants dying unbaptized could not enter the kingdom of heaven. "This," said the dean, "is a view which nobody, of course, holds now," but he must be mistaken, for there is evidence that some clergymen have used rather strong language upon that subject. The dean went on to say:—

The American Church, you are aware, has altered the rubric with regard to the unbaptized, feeling the extreme severity of excluding the unbaptized infant either from the kingdom of heaven or from Christian burial, and has confined the exclusion to unbaptized adults. Even that does not mend the matter, when you consider who there may possibly be amongst unbaptized adults—that is to say, persons who have been brought up by Dissenting parents, perhaps Quakers or Baptists, and may afterwards have entered the Church in later years and not been baptized. It is well known there have been considerable doubts as to one or two even eminent prelates of our own Church in this particular. There are certainly persons of the most eminent Christian virtues and graces who have been in this position. I need hardly mention the one case of Mrs. Fry, of whom it would be in the highest degree unchristian and contrary to the feeling and the opinion of Englishmen at this time to regard such as she was as excluded from the kingdom of heaven, or to class them with profligate livers and the like. Therefore for this reason it was thought something should be, if possible, devised which, without too great a shock to old ecclesiastical feelings, may yet be read over those two classes of persons I have mentioned, as well as those who lay violent hands on themselves.

An interesting debate followed, and several propositions were made. Amongst others the Rev. F. Bathurst proposed that:—

There is to be noted that the office ensuing is not to be used for any that die unbaptized, or who, being of sound mind, have laid violent hands upon themselves; but it shall be lawful for the minister in all such cases to read one or both of the Psalms following, together with one of the Lessons, and the four sentences appointed to be said while the corpse is made ready to be laid into the earth; concluding with the Lord's Prayer and the Grace at the end of the office.

This was seconded by Canon Selwyn, but rejected by a large majority. Archdeacon Moore thereupon proposed a sort of compromise in favour of the infants:—

But it shall be lawful for the minister in the case of infant children of Christian parents, who from unavoidable causes have not been baptized, to read one or both of the Psalms following, &c., &c. [following the words of the Ritual Commissioners].

This also was rejected, and ultimately the old form was adopted with the addition of a few words in favour of "open and notorious evil livers," over whom there shall be a service, but—there shall be

no service over the unbaptized! There! Is it not high time that the laity were in Convocation?

The Evangelical party are still discussing the Bennett judgment with great seriousness, and the *Record* on Monday, and at last, candidly acknowledges the gravity of the situation. We give several quotations from recent deliverances of the clergy, from which we gather that great as the evil of the recent judgment is confessed to be, there is, as yet, no way open for secession. Yet Mr. Molyneux will not "listen to any compromise." He wishes to wait, but if the memorial to the Queen now being signed, "praying for such alteration in the laws of the Church as would prevent this heresy of the Real Presence from having a place in the doctrine of the Church"—if that should fail, said Mr. Molyneux, "there was no alternative but secession."

But what does Mr. Bennett himself say to all this? We have, in the *Frome Times* of Wednesday last, a full report of a sermon by Mr. Bennett, delivered on the previous Monday evening from the text, "What is truth?" in which, at the beginning, we have the Church compared to Christ, and the Privy Council Committee to Pontius Pilate. Perhaps our readers would like a quotation or two?

Before Pontius Pilate, as a civil governor, and having nothing to do with the Church, He answered not a word, at which the "Governor marvelled greatly." The parallel was thus perfect in the present case of the Church, as she stood before the modern Pontius Pilate in the Privy Council. And this, he said, was the great question of Church and State. The Church has her laws, canons of discipline, creeds, ritual, and customs clearly to be traced to the Apostolic ages. When in history there have been doubts to be cleared up in these matters, disputes to be settled, or heresies to be expunged, it was not to Kings' Courts that the Church appealed, but to her own Synods; as in the time of Constantine, it was not the Emperor that decided the faith, but the Council of Nice. The temporal power and the spiritual power might possibly run in parallel lines, but just as parallel lines, begin as you may, and go on as long as you please, could never join each other, so the State and the Church. Or as water and fire might exist independently of each other in the same room as long as they did not touch—but from the moment that one should touch the other, one of them must perish—so the Church and the State. The world stands by and looks on; heresy and infidelity, represented as now by the Civil Government, sneers as Pontius Pilate did; and when questions of truth are brought before it, it cannot decide; it may punish or coerce, but it cannot judge; perplexed, bewildered, and confused, it merely cries, "What is truth?"

Here is another extract:—

His conduct as the truth, such must be the conduct of the Church, now His representative. Could the Church—the real Church—not bishops, who are lords of Parliament, not that which depends on the diets of her enemies, and follows them as by *Law Established*? No—but says the Preacher, I mean the *real* Church, the Church of the Apostles, the Church which has come down here among us, from His very own commission, "Go ye and teach all nations." This only is the Truth, and this only we have to consider. First then the Church must remember that it is a very part of its being to be brought before kings and rulers, and when brought before them to bear patiently what they say; to be humble, to be silent under persecution, to take up the cross. "They will persecute you," said Jesus, "from city to city." If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, much more shall they call them of His household! The Privy Council has brought it out. How monstrously absurd to look at the Church as a creature of lordly power, earthly magnificence, luxurious living, and ostentatious display. Is that Jesus?

Much of the same kind followed, but why should Mr. Bennett declare that the law "established Church" is not the "real Church" and still, as we judge, stick by it?

There will be found in another column some intelligence relating to the ecclesiastical precedence question in South Australia. Our children across the seas are not satisfied with having abolished the State-Church, they insist on abolishing its shadow. Such a shadow remains in the precedence still given to its bishops, &c., in public ceremonies. The Legislature has passed an Act for its abolition, but Her Majesty's Government refuse to sanction it on the ground that it is an invasion of the royal prerogative, the precedence being created by royal letters patent. If the Houses address the Crown, the precedence will be abolished. The matter is causing great excitement in Australia, and it is uncertain how it will all end.

We have also had forwarded to us a report of the proceedings of the British Guiana Assembly in the matter of the application of the Wesleyan missionaries of that colony for another public grant in aid of their missions. The subject came up in the Combined Court on June 10, when the proposal was strongly objected to. The opposition was led by Mr. Drysdale and Mr. Craigen. The Government Secretary explained that the grant was not for special purposes, but to assist in carrying out the general work of the Wesleyan Missionary Society. Notwithstanding, however, the support given to it by the Governor, the proposed grant was rejected by 9 to 3, and the item was at once struck out of the estimates. We are glad to hear it.

MR. PUNCH'S CARTOON AND VERSES OF JULY 10, 1872.

MIALL'S MISADVENTURE.

Miall, the battle, fought of yore,
For reason and for right,
Against the Church that overbore,
Is now another fight.
By rigid tests, without the fold,
Of England's Church when pent,
For liberty belief to hold,
With good cause strove Dissent.
But now by tests there's nothing meant,
If what they mean we search,
A narrow faction, wars Dissent
Against a Liberal Church.
Dissectors of all shades, O Laud,
Thy shade may whoop, or wail!
The Church, High Churchmen, Low, and Broad,
Includes within its pale.

AN ANSWER.

(From a Correspondent.)
Oh Punch, the battle that we fight,
Is the old fight of yore,
Wherein good men, to set things right,
Much persecution bore.
By rigid test still cramped and pent
Within the Church's fold,
Think you her priests will leave the tent
Where hides the wedge of gold?
Unearth the wedge, or else the search,
Grown hotter in intent,
Will number searchers from the "Church"
As well as from "Dissent."
At present, "94" may fail
To find out Achan's board,
The time will come when, at their tail,
You'll find "High," "Low," and "Broad."

CHURCH DEFENCE.

(Abridged from the *Essex Telegraph*.)

A lecture on this subject was delivered at the Town Hall, Colchester, on Friday evening, by J. Carvell Williams, Esq., of the Liberation Society. J. Harnard, Esq., a member of the Society of Friends, presided.

Mr. C. WILLIAMS commenced by explaining that the cause of his visit was the holding of a Church Defence Institution meeting at Colchester last month; at which meeting some things were said about the Liberation Society which it was thought should be replied to by some one who knew what its principles and aims really were. He, however, should not be provoked by the tone of some of the speakers into speaking contemptuously or bitterly of those who differed from him in this matter, and, instead of treating them as conspirators or as infidels, he should regard them as Christians and as gentlemen, who had a right to hold the views they did hold, and to advocate them to the best of their ability. (Cheers.) It was, however, important to understand the exact question with which they had to deal; because some of the speakers at the meeting appeared to be in a confused state of mind as to that which they were called upon to defend. Having repelled the insinuations that the Liberation Society was hostile to Christianity, or wished to interfere with the worship of the Church of England, he said that the truth was that the title of the Church Defence Institution was a misnomer; for it ought to be called the Church Establishment Defence Institution, since it was not the Church, but only the Establishment, which was assailed. After describing the character and position of the various religious bodies, of the State and of the Establishment, he proceeded to say:—That was the system which the members of the Liberation Society assailed, and for assailing which they were reviled as though they were the effeminate of all things. The motto of the Church Defence Association, "Defence not defiance," was an absurdity; for an Establishment was a standing defiance of those sections of the community which did not belong to it. Its rights were the wrongs of Nonconformists, and its privileges were their disabilities. (Loud cheers.) Archdeacon Ady said that if Episcopalians had their churches and dissenters their chapels, he did not see why they should not go on happily. But what would he say if the conditions were reversed? What if, when he woke up to-morrow, he found Wesleyanism, instead of Church-of-Englandism, established? What if the President of the Wesleyan Conference and its chief ministers had incomes of from 4,000*l.* to 10,000*l.* a-year out of public property, lived in public palaces, and, as peers of Parliament, made laws for the whole realm, and often defeated measures on which the hearts of the people were set. (Loud cheers.) What if the Wesleyan ministers had the right to preside at all vestry meetings, and exercised other legal powers; and if, as the result of all these arrangements, the bishops and clergy of the Church of England became nobodies, and were looked upon with disdain by those who were in no degree superior to them in learning or piety? Would the archdeacon then talk of going on happily? (Loud cheers.) Would not he and his friends complain loudly of the injustice inflicted upon them—demand religious equality, and, in fact, do just what the Liberation Society was doing? (Cheers.) Let Churchmen only apply the golden rule of "doing to others as they would that men should do to them," and they would soon see the impossibility of successfully defending an Establishment on the ground of justice. Referring to the Church property question, he pointed out the distinction between the endowments of Nonconformists and those of the Establishment, and said that when the Irish Church was disendowed, as well as disestablished, no one in either House of Parliament submitted an amendment which denied the truth of the principle he had now asserted. Mr. Miall had also last week, in his place in Parliament, asserted the right of the State to deal at its own discretion with Church property, and though he and his friends were denounced and vilified throughout the country as confiscators and spoliators, not a Churchman in the House of Com-

mons ventured to say before his face what had so often been said behind his back, or to controvert the doctrine which he had always consistently proclaimed. (Loud cheers.) The lecturer then proceeded to show that, after all, it was not the actual, but an ideal establishment which Churchmen were defending, in proof of which statement he furnished a striking series of descriptive passages from the pens of Churchmen relative to the mode of appointing bishops, convocation, the cathedral system, the position of the laity, church patronage, the sale of livings, the parochial system, and other topics, in regard to which the profoundest dissatisfaction prevailed within the Church. In speaking of Convocation he said:—With regard to the admission of the laity to Convocation, he wished to call the particular attention of the laity of the Church of England to what had lately transpired in Convocation. The Bishop of Winchester had there said that, so long as the Church was established, it would be impossible that laymen should be represented in Convocation, and that the clamour for their introduction was only another mode of asking for the disestablishment of the Church. The Primate had talked in the same strain, and he commended the fact to those of the laity who had been so earnestly appealed to at the Church Defence meeting to rally round the Establishment, and who had been told that it was the foundation of the liberties of the laity. (Cheers.) Anticipating the replies likely to be made to his statements he said:—Mr. Warren had said of the disadvantages of Church and State connection, that they affected the internal condition of the Church only and her own members alone. "Her own members only!" said the speaker, "why, I thought that this was a national Church, and that nothing was so much dreaded as its being reduced to the level of a sect! It is a national Church, and for that reason the whole nation has a right to examine into its condition, and to criticise all its arrangements. (Cheers.) The nation is as much interested in abolishing purchase in the Church as in the Army, in putting an end to rottenness and waste in the Church as in the navy, and in securing efficient bishops and clergymen as able judges and honest policemen." (Loud cheers.) He added that they were interested in the working of the Church of England as Christians, as well as citizens; for not only could they not dispense with that Church as a religious agency, but the scandals he had been describing inflicted deep injury on the cause of religion, and he believed, alienated the working classes from Christianity and tended to foster infidelity. It would, no doubt, be urged that these things could be reformed; but where was the Church Defence Institution's programme of reform? Was it not too much absorbed in trying to maintain the Establishment to be able to purify the Church? Programmes of reform had been put forth by others, but thorough Church reform was hopeless so long as the Church was established. (Hear, hear.) There could be no reform without the intervention of Parliament, and Parliament had neither time, ability, or inclination to undertake the gigantic work. Moreover, legislation had occasioned many of the evils which afflicted the Church, and more legislation would not remove them. The Church must reform itself to be reformed at all, and it could not reform itself till it possessed the freedom which only an unestablished Church could enjoy. (Cheers.) In the closing part of his lecture Mr. Williams referred to an aspect of the establishment question, the seriousness of which had been increased by a recent legal decision. At the meeting to which he had made reference it was said that the Church held certain central truths, and that she was the purest of all churches as regards doctrine. Well, he had no wish to speak disparagingly of the Church's doctrines, but what were they? (Cheers.) And who were the authorised expounders? The bishops and clergy had vowed that they would drive away all strange and erroneous doctrines, but it was becoming difficult to ascertain what the Church considered to be strange and erroneous doctrine. (Cheers.) Mr. Hughes, M.P., had gloried in the fact that the Church embraced various doctrines from Nationalism to Romanism, and Mr. Ryle said that, when he attended the Norwich Church Congress "it was like visiting the Zoological Gardens, and seeing a sort of Noah's ark, in which beasts clean and unclean were assembled together." But the unclean beasts had just as much right to be there as the clean beasts. (Cheers.) They had tried to eject each other but had failed. The lecturer proceeded to describe the litigation which legalised the position of the evangelicals, and that which decided that the authors of the *Essays and Reviews* were just as entitled to promulgate their views as any other party in the Church. The ritualists and high sacramentarians had since been proceeded since; but neither Mr. Mackonochie nor Mr. Purchas had yet been ejected, while it had been decided that Mr. Bennet might remain a minister of the Church. The lecturer severely commented on the attempt of the *Record* to prove that the judgment in the Bennett case was a great triumph both for Protestants and the Evangelical party; though it was obliged to admit that the decision opened the door to every phase of heresy. Conspicuous Evangelicals, like Mr. Baxter and the Rev. Capel Molyneux, had deplored the result in unequivocal terms; but such men as the Rev. Samuel Garratt and Archdeacon Allen had advised the Evangelicals to submit in silence, and not to think of either secession or disestablishment. It was important to remember that they had not seen the end of this judgment yet—(Hear, hear)

for it would form a starting point for new doctrinal development, and the decisions of the Privy Council and the failure of the recent prosecutions, would make heretical clergymen bolder and bolder, and secure for them practical impunity. (Cheers.) In fact, there was a party in the Church which, driven by the stress of political circumstances, were bent on making the Establishment all-comprehensive; Dean Stanley declaring that the glory of a Church was to have a blank shield! After replying to other statements, he closed by referring to the state of things in America and the colonies in regard to religion, and urged Episcopalians at home to have as much faith in their religion and their own system as their co-Episcopalians there.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

Mr. T. CATCHPOOL, in seconding the motion, said it appeared to him that evening while listening to the highly effective and eloquent lecture just delivered, that Mr. Williams had shown himself a special instrument raised up for this great work. (Cheers.)

Rev. J. BATTY proposed a vote of thanks to the mayor for the use of the Town Hall, which Mr. Wicks, Junr., said had never before echoed such sentiments as had been uttered that night.

THE EVANGELICAL PARTY AND THE BENNETT JUDGMENT.

The judgment of the Privy Council in the Bennett case continues to be the subject of much discussion among Evangelical Churchmen, both clerical and lay, but especially among the latter. Amongst the laity, Mr. Henry Noel says, in a letter to the *Record*, that he regards it as distinctly established by the judgment, that, although the articles and formularies may be all that is claimed for them, the Church of England has no more power to restrain in her pulpits the teaching of doctrines which "nothing but the extreme subtlety can distinguish from Roman Catholicism" (*Times*, June 10), than a certain Act of Parliament had power to restrain Dr. Manning from calling himself Archbishop of Westminster.

What then should be the reply to the challenge thus thrown down to Protestants, not by the four columns of recapitulative argument—not by the adjectives, be they more or less softened or more or less pungent, of the Judicial Committee, but by the verdict they pronounce.

It appears to me that whatever course the clergy may feel themselves called to adopt, nothing less than this will meet the gravity of the case as regards the laity, namely, that they should cease to partake of the bread and the cup within the Church's walls, until there has been within her limits a purging of the "three great doctrines upon which," Mr. Bennett says, "the Catholic Church takes her stand," and which nothing can now prevent ten thousand Mr. Bennetts teaching with all the power, influence, and authority which the State gives to those who minister in her pulpits.

The Rev. Capel Molyneux, of St. Paul's, Onslow-square, devoted his sermon on Sunday morning to the consideration of the Bennett judgment, and the duty of Evangelical clergymen with respect to it. He chose for his text 2 Cor. vi. 14:—"What fellowship hath righteousness and unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" After commenting at some length on the extraordinary character of the judgment, and the position in which it had placed the clergy, who were bound by their vows to support the doctrine of the Church, he went on to state what their duty as Evangelicals was in reference to it. He said there were two courses open to them—one in relation to the Church, and the other in relation to their connection with the Church. With regard to the Church, what was wanted was a downright radical revision of the Prayer-book. It was ridiculous to talk of anything short of it; and he would be content with nothing less. He would not listen to any compromise. The Church Association was making an attempt to get a petition signed all over the country, to be sent with a memorial to Her Majesty praying for some such alteration in the laws of the Church as would prevent this heresy of the Real Presence from having a place in the doctrine of the Church. He, however, had little hope of success in this direction, seeing that the Judicial Committee was the final Court of Appeal. At the same time he would wait to see what the result would be. In the event of this effort being a failure, what was their duty as ministers, who were responsible for the doctrines taught in the Church? He said boldly that if the Church remained as she was there was no alternative but secession. He would accept no other. Let the Church be changed, and he would abide; but let the Church abide, and he would change himself. He wished them thoroughly to understand that if he remained in the Church some time longer it would only be because efforts were being made to eradicate this accursed evil from the Church. He wished it to be known to all men, that he for one would not, directly or indirectly, sanction in any way the idolatrous worship of a sacrificial image which the Judicial Committee, by acquitting Mr. Bennett, had set up in the Church of England. There was a large congregation, and Mr. Molyneux's remarks were listened to with great eagerness and attention.

Another clergyman, the Rev. Chas. Bullock, rector of St. Nicholas, Worcester, admits, with Mr. Molyneux, that he does not know what is the best remedy to have recourse to, but thinks it im-

portant Protestant Churchmen should ponder why it is that they do not know—

I am disposed to trace the evil to its root, and to reply that our State alliance is so far a worldly alliance that we lack the primitive power of New Testament discipline. The Church is identified with the State, instead of being, as it ought to be, recognised by the State. Hence, in a New Testament sense, the "laity" are literally nowhere. Indeed, no one knows who they are. The law says—"The bad as well as the good—those who come to Church and those who don't—every man and woman in the parish." The world, in short, is the "Church," instead of being the "field."

My inference is this: That if we are to know how to remedy effectually the present contradictory state of things in our truly Protestant and Evangelical Church—(so far as her real teaching is to be found in our reformed Prayer-book)—we must first practically get back to the New Testament idea of the ecclesiastical Church, the idea most admirably expressed in the Nineteenth Article, but utterly irreconcilable with things as they now are. "The visible," or ecclesiastical "Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men," says the article. "The Church is the nation, including all sorts and all opinions—at any rate not excluding any"—is the contradictory answer of things as they are.

The Rev. J. G. Gregory, of Park Chapel, Chelsea, also, is not to be soothed by the sophistry of those who think Evangelicalism has gained rather than lost by the judgment. He says:—

It may be that the delivered judgment has not "required" the Church's minister "to accept" the several articles of Popish doctrine which it permits them both to hold and teach. But that it does permit them to hold and teach these errors, and that without any future censure, is enough, and the Protestant standing of the Church of England is no more! The case is as plain as it is bitterly wicked. It is vain waste of time (which we can ill afford to lose) in trying to prove a victory from the strange language of the judgment. The fact which affects us is one, and one only. We are no longer a Protestant Church, but a Church in which anything and everything may be held and taught with impunity, from the limits of extreme Popery to those of almost utter infidelity. And this fact becomes overwhelming when we consider that our Church has no existence, except by the law of the land; and that only which that law makes her, that she is. So, then, she is actually unprotestantised, and we her ministers are, as to our position in her, unprotestantised also.

This is a position in which surely we dare not remain if we fear the God of the Bible. But we must act without rash precipitancy; we must act wisely; while the tide of circumstances calls loudly to us that we act promptly. Therefore, I ask the elders who are amongst us what they are about to do? How will they lead us? The eyes of thousands are, I believe, resting anxiously upon them for some prayerful, instant, and united action. Surely, if they rise not to the occasion, there will be no united action at all except for secession.

Might I suggest first a prayer union throughout the country, and then a petition to the Queen herself, signed (if it might be) by the thousands who I trust yet remain of our Protestant clergymen and laymen of the Church of England, headed by the honoured names of those who have been long our justly acknowledged leaders in the cause of truth.

It is, however, a minority of the clergy who write in this strain. Most of the letters with which the *Record* teems are in favour of allowing matters to remain as they are, though the disposition to exult in the recent judgment as an absolute gain to the Evangelicals is not quite so apparent. "Presbyter" writes:—

As long as we are not compelled to preach errors ourselves, and do what in us lies to protest against others preaching error, we ought to remain in the National Church till we are (as Jesus was at Nazareth) actually turned out of it. With those who feel that the example of Christ, once clearly made out, is of paramount authority, this argument would have much weight. It should, at least, obtain from us all close consideration, when many are anxiously debating in their own retirements the question of how far they are implicated in the errors now legally tolerated in our National Establishment.

The Rev. Reginald Smith sees no cause for despondency, being one of those who think the affirmation of truth to be of far greater importance than the condemnation of error and the excommunication of those who maintain it:—

It would have been well for the visible Church if with respect to the punishment of heretics it had been more attentive to the Divine admonition, "Let both grow together until the harvest." The abominable cruelties of the Inquisition, of the Marian and Alvan persecutions, would not then have defiled the history of Christendom. . . . Some zealous Protestants may still think that too great latitude in the use of language is allowed by the judgment with respect to the "Real Presence." They are entitled to their own opinion, and I hope they will allow me to say that I rejoice in the degree of liberty afforded; I think it not only necessary to the very existence of an Established Church, but right and Scriptural in itself. I hold that an opposite result would have brought about an unscriptural narrowing of the terms of communion, and would have excluded many whom the Lord has included in that Church which is the blessed company of all faithful people.

The Rev. W. J. Bolton, of Stratford, asks if the Church is un-Protestantised because Mr. Bennett and his views have escaped legal condemnation:—

Certainly not. Mr. Bennett has only escaped because he is unintelligible. He has escaped (1) with such a castigation and implied threat as few clergymen have ever had to submit to (2); and that only by withdrawing his own words (3); until, in fact, he took up a position in cloudy verbiage. When a man is driven to use language which neither he nor his judges can understand, of course he escapes penal law, and is only amenable to the law of common sense and commiseration. But I cannot see how this unprotestantizes us. There is no doubt that Mr. Bennett and his following believe

in Romish doctrine, but they dare not assert it; and our highest ecclesiastical court has virtually condemned their real views.

Upon the whole, then, both with regard to our standards of faith and the opposite views of our opponents, we are, as we have been, a Protestant Reformed Church.

The learned Dr. C. H. Davis also takes the view that Mr. Bennett escaped because he was "too cloudy," and points out that the judgment nowhere says that that the Ritualistic clergyman does not contradict the Articles, but only not "so plainly" and "necessarily" and undoubtedly and evidently as to be deprived of his benefice. He is of opinion that the gain exceeds the loss.

"An East Kent Incumbent" takes comfort in the belief that the Church has now got to the fullest extent of the theological tether:—

A clergyman, if so disposed, may unhappily now teach his people to "adore Christ present in the Sacrament under the form of bread and wine, believing that under their veil is the sacred body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." He may conscientiously believe this to be the true meaning of the last clause of 1 Cor. xi. 29. But let him only go one step further, and teach them to adore "the consecrated elements," and he will soon find the consequences. So that still at the very worst we have a clear legal line of demarcation on this point between us and Rome.

Dr. Boulton, of Highbury writes:—

I warn possible seceders that they will not find a Church on earth with better legal securities against Papistical doctrine on the Lord's Supper than ours. No! not even the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, if its documents came to endure the same legal handling to which ours have been subjected.

If a court has, in the execution of its legal power (though as I may believe wrongfully), given to a claimant a footing in a corner of my estate, assuring me at the same time that my title is unquestionable, shall I be infatuated enough to abandon hall, park, and fruitful acres, the inheritance of my fathers, to him? No, I will steadily enjoy my right and defend my patrimony, mine before God and man—"The Lord forbid it me that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee!"

The Rev. S. Garratt, of Ipswich, gives counsel in this wise:—

Ritualism sprang up as a new adaptation of Tractarianism to an altered state of things. It was more fitted for the glowing atmosphere of the times, and flourished accordingly. Christian men, too many of whom had not heartily welcomed the gift which God sent in the revival, were panic-stricken at this counterfeit of it, the "Catholic revival," as Ritualists call it. In alarm, instead of trusting to spiritual weapons, which had succeeded against the error in its first form, they had recourse to carnal weapons, and, instead of confuting it from Scripture, resolved to silence it by law. Many friends of mine who will read this letter will bear me witness that from the first I predicted disaster, either from success or defeat, and tried in vain to persuade them not to take this course, the results of which we now see both after success and after defeat. And I am persuaded still that our only right course is to do now what we should have done then—preach the truth more fully, contend for the faith more earnestly, warn men more faithfully of the infinite peril of idolatry, and, above all, pray more fervently that the Holy Ghost would once again sweep over our Church and land in a flood of light and love. What we ought to long for is, not to silence these men, but to convince them; not to send them to Rome, but to win them to the truth.

The letters of Dr. Boulton and Mr. Garratt have given comfort to the mind of the Rev. W. Martin, of Trowbridge, and he hopes to many young clergymen like himself who are seeking for guidance—the one convincing him of the folly of secession; the other increasing his unbounded confidence in God's Word.

THE FRENCH PROTESTANT SYNOD.

The French Protestant Synod has just held its thirtieth and final sitting in Paris. It will, however, meet again, and in the French capital, on the 15th of next November. The discussions were very animated to the last. Indeed, at the sitting on the 9th instant there was indescribable uproar, to quote the report in the *Temps*, and the whole of the Liberal members were about to leave the room in a body, owing to an expression reflecting upon them used by one of the speakers. It was not until the expression had been withdrawn that they consented to remain, and that order was restored. At the final sitting, various propositions brought forward at previous meetings respecting the separation of the Church from the State were discussed. The following conclusions which were adopted by the Assembly were then read:—"The Synod considering that the principle of the reciprocal independence of the Churches and of the State ought to be introduced into modern public law; considering that the Reformed Church of France is disposed for its part to accept with confidence its separation from the State, when the Government shall deem it necessary for all religious bodies; the Synod deems it well to urge the Church to prepare for this separation." The address of the Synod to the Reformed Churches was then read. M. Martin Paschoud thereupon declared in the name of all the members of the Liberal party that they would propose no amendment to the address, nor offer any objection to its being sent to the churches; but that it was due to themselves to state that they had had nothing to do with its composition, having opposed most of the decisions adopted by the Synod during the session. It was then resolved that a letter should be sent to the Grand Rabbi, expressing the sorrow of the Reformed Church at the persecutions to which the Jews had been subjected in Roumania. Votes of thanks to the Moderator and other mem-

bers were responded to in a cordial spirit, and the proceedings closed.

The special correspondent of the *Times* considers that the discussions of the Synod have rather had the effect of showing the weakness than the strength of the French Protestant Church, since in all the votes it has proved a Church divided against itself in the average proportions of three parts against two. There seems something anomalous in a Church deciding upon its theology by going into division upon it, and it may fairly be questioned how long a Church founded on divisions is likely to last as a compact organisation. The Left and Left Centre think that their opponents have pushed their rights as a majority to the point of tyranny, and where the thing tyrannised over is not one's political but one's religious conscience, the minister of the Gospel finds it more difficult to go with his party than the Deputy of the Assembly or the member of the House of Commons. However, in all cases the sensation of forcing one's convictions is a disagreeable one, and the Left have struggled hard for a theological loophole by means of which they might save their moral freedom while still belonging to the Church. They have continued to make concessions to orthodoxy and to argue against it with much warmth and intelligence, but always with the fatal objection staring them in the face that sooner or later the arbitrary principle to which they object in matters of religious belief would have to be introduced. Electors are qualified by a declaration that "they remain sincerely attached to the Reformed Church, and to the Evangelical truth revealed in the books of the Old and New Testaments." Candidates for the ministry are qualified before consecration by a declaration that "they adhere to the faith of the Church as laid down by the General Synod." It will thus be seen that, although the elector must profess himself sincerely attached to the Reformed Church, he need not subscribe to its profession of faith. The Left fought hard to obtain for the preacher as much latitude of religious opinion as was accorded to those who were theologically qualified to elect him, but the delicate "nuance" above indicated was carried by a considerable majority. M. Jalabert's amendment suppressing the act of obligatory adhesion to the profession of faith was rejected by 61 votes. The same kind of fight has been waged over the parochial organisation throughout the country. There are about 500 Protestant parishes in France. The Liberals moved that where one-third desired a separation of parishes, with a separate Council of Presbytery, they should be allowed to have it. This was carried against them. Where the parish contains more than 500 members, the Council of Presbyters is to consist of seven, who choose the pastor, who becomes their president. The Left moved that he be elected by universal suffrage, but the experience of this form of election has answered so ill in France politically that it was put aside without hesitation. They then proposed the English idea of representation by minorities, but this was equally unsuccessful, and the Left have really not managed to carry a single important point. The functions of the Council of Presbyters were finally decided to be to administer the parish, watch over the due celebration of public worship, the maintenance of the Liturgy and of discipline, the administration of Church property, and the distribution of alms. As, however, it will be seen that the members who compose this Council need not have subscribed the profession of faith, it seems somewhat dangerous, considering the very strong objections to it which a large proportion of them hold, to entrust to them these all-important functions. In wading through the long columns of these debates, one cannot help regretting that some of the time spent in deciding what were the theological opinions that men should hold had not been spent in considering how the daily practice of Protestant Christians might be improved, and how the influence of the Church might be brought to bear more efficaciously, not so much on what the electors and their clergy ought to think and to preach, as on what they ought to practise.

KEBLE COLLEGE.—It is stated that Mr. Gibbs, the head of the well-known firm of Antony Gibbs and Son, has given 30,000*l.* to Keble College, Oxford, for the purpose of building a chapel for the youngest of the Oxford colleges.

AWKWARD.—In 1826 the twenty-seven archbishops and bishops of Ireland unanimously declared that Papal Infallibility was not an article of Catholic doctrine which they were required to believe. They have all now accepted it, and expect their flocks to do likewise.

THE JESUITS IN GERMANY.—It is announced in Berlin clerical journals that in consequence of the hostile address delivered by the Pope on the 24th ult., the Emperor William has granted to Prince Bismarck the utmost latitude with regard to the measures which the Chancellor may think desirable with regard to the refractory bishops. According to trustworthy intelligence the repressive measures will not be confined to the withdrawal of the temporalities of Bishop Krementz, but a more sweeping and general hostile course is contemplated, and the next prelate who will be affected by the anti-Romanist policy is the Archbishop of Cologne.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS AND THE NATIONAL BOARD.—The *Dublin Evening Post* says that the Roman Catholic bishops, at their recent meeting in Maynooth, have come to a resolution of a highly important character. The resolution

prohibits the Catholic clergy from accepting aid from the National Board to erect schools upon the existing terms. The bishops will not consent to the clergy contracting any relations of a legal or binding character, where lease or money and covenants are concerned which might restrict their free action in withdrawing their schools from connection with the National Board. "Of the 7,000 national schools," says the *Post*, "not more than one-fourth are vested, so that the others are liable to be withdrawn from under the board at any moment."

A FREE CHURCH MINISTER IN MR. MARTINEAU'S PULPIT.—On Thursday last the Rev. William Knight, St. Enoch's Church, appeared before the Dundee Free Church Presbytery to answer the charge that on a recent Sabbath he preached in the Rev. James Martineau's Unitarian Chapel, London. There was a large attendance of members of the presbytery and the public. After discussion Mr. Knight read a statement in defence. On Monday the subject was resumed. A deputation from Mr. Knight's congregation appeared, and stated that, whatever might be the case with others, no offence had been given, and no harm done to them by Mr. Knight preaching in Mr. Martineau's church, and that he had not in any way compromised his position as a minister of the Free Church. Mr. Knight stated that he was ready to express regret that he had been the means of giving offence to his brethren, but that he could not, as an honest man, express regret for the act of preaching itself. He believed he was right in preaching in Portland-road Chapel, and contended that he had broken no Church law in doing so. After a long discussion, a motion was adopted, setting forth that Mr. Knight's conduct was highly censurable, but that in view of the offence being the first of the kind with which the Church had had to deal, Mr. Knight should simply be admonished, required to repudiate the Unitarian body as forming no part of the Church of Christ, and enjoined not to repeat the same act under the pain of exposing himself to the highest censure of the Church. A committee was appointed to deal with him in regard to the difficulty he had in agreeing to the motion, and to report.

ECCLÉSIASTICAL PRECEDENCY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Last year a bill to abolish all ecclesiastical precedence within this colony, passed with but little opposition through both Houses of our Parliament, was reserved by the Governor, and sent home for Her Majesty's pleasure. As was expected by all but those whose feelings would not allow them to see the inevitable, the bill did not receive the royal assent. This refusal was accompanied by a very courteous despatch from the Secretary of State, fully recognising the general feeling in the colonies against such precedence, and pointing out that the passing of an address, praying Her Majesty for the future to abolish all such precedence—that is, on the expiration of the present letters patent to grant no new ones—would no doubt, as had been the case with the Victorians, be assented to. This very obvious course, however, did not seem sufficiently decided to find favour with, at all events, that portion of our community which has the readiest opportunity of expressing its sentiments. Consequently another bill, introduced as soon as possible after the receipt of the above-mentioned despatch, has already been read twice, the second time, however, only by a majority of two, and it is extremely doubtful whether it will survive a third reading. There is at present a motion before the House of Assembly to substitute an address for the bill, and it is said that the Government will transfer their support to this in every way preferable course. In this case we may conclude that the bill will be lost and the address carried, and so the colonies will get what they want. There is no doubt a very strong feeling, not only here but elsewhere throughout Australia, against any ecclesiastical supremacy; a feeling which has been growing ever since the abolition of State aid to religion, till it has reached a height which it would be difficult for you in England to realise. It is hardly, however, possible to believe that even the most uncompromising supporters of the bill seriously believe that they will induce Her Majesty to "forego her prerogative." The address will give them all they require, for the number of those who really wish to see the present holders of such privileges deprived of their rights is exceedingly small, and with the address there is good reason to believe that they will ultimately rest contented.—*Letter in the Times.*

Religious and Denominational News.

NEW NONCONFORMIST AND UNION CHURCH AT LEICESTER.

On Tuesday last the foundation-stone of a new Nonconformist Church, in course of erection in New Park-street, Braunstone-gate, was laid by S. Morley, Esq., M.P. The proceedings were presided over by the Mayor (J. Stafford, Esq.), who stated that the new place of worship was to accommodate about 1,000 people, and was in a poor district. It was to be a union church. No distinction was to be known between Independents or Baptists, either in or out of the pulpit. This he considered to be an omen for good. It seemed to him that in these days they ought to strive to make men Christians, rather than make them Episcopalians, Baptists, or Wesleyans. The want of the times was not how to get chapel or church accommodation, but how to get people to attend these

places of worship. There was in Leicester accommodation for not more than one half of the population, and he believed few churches or chapels were really well filled. How was this? It seemed to him to be accounted for by the indifference the great mass of the people exhibited in regard to attending places of worship. But how was this to be met? He thought they should have an earnest body of men and women visiting the masses, and inducing them to go to some place of worship, no matter whether Episcopalian, Baptist, or Wesleyan.

Mr. Richard Harris, the principal promoter of the scheme, in the course of a statement on the subject, said that it was intended when the new church was open for worship, that the adjacent congregation at Thorpe-street should merge into it, and the old chapel be used entirely for the benefit of the schools until new schools on this site were built. The committee had adopted the following regulations:—

1st. That every subscriber of 50*l.*, or collector of 50*l.*, shall be eligible to become a member of the committee. 2nd. That the church shall be open for communion and full membership to Christians of all denominations. 3rd. That the property shall be conveyed in trust to trustees chosen by the committee. 4th. That the committee shall be the trustees for all moneys collected towards the erection, and shall have full power to choose the minister, and the trustees for the property, and to determine all matters relating to the building and also to the formation of the church. 5th. On the church being formed the power of the committee shall cease, unless the church so formed request the committee to continue its services in relation to pecuniary matters.

The new building, independent of the land, was to cost about 5,000*l.*, towards which 2,000*l.* had been promised. The trust-deed would provide that the church should be used only for that religious teaching known as Evangelical, and that the ministers should be selected at the option of the congregation from either the Baptist or Independent denomination. The church would be chiefly used by the working classes, who had raised a large sum among themselves.

The Rev. Dr. Haycroft, in giving an address on their distinctive principles, said that the religious body hereafter to be connected with that place of worship might be described in few words as Protestant, Nonconformist, Dissenting, Congregational, Evangelical. In saying these few words, and in giving a reason for the hope they had in themselves, and in the truth they held, they might consider their sentiments with the deepest respect for all those bodies of Christians from whom they differed. There was a link wanting to complete the catholicity of the Congregational community, and the object of this building was to supply it. The church there would be Congregational, while it would admit Baptists and Pedobaptists, and it would be left in the hands of the church to select its ministers from the Independent or Baptist body. He apprehended that the usage there would be that the government would not be in the hands of a few pew-holders, but of those who were associated together in Christian fellowship, the conditions of Christian fellowship being, as they ought always to be, that a man who sought admission should be a lover of Christ, and that a majority of the members should vote for his admission. Dr. Haycroft concluded by expressing a hope that the church would be the means of evangelising that part of the town.

Mr. Shenton, the architect, having read a description of the building, Mr. A. Turner presented to Mr. Morley a silver trowel with which the hon. member laid the foundation-stone.

Mr. Morley, M.P., after a hearty compliment to Dr. Haycroft on his address, said he was in cordial harmony with the principle on which that church was to be founded, and was glad there was no talk about extending "our denomination." He was a believer in their principles and their ancestry. But they had to work as well as talk. The people needed to be visited. They needed to get more into contact with their poorer neighbours. They required that practical expression of sympathy which would bridge over the gulf which still, unhappily, existed between the rich and the poor. They ought to go to those amongst whom they lived, and who were less favoured than themselves, and talk to them, not in a spirit of patronage, but with Christian sympathy. He read in a newspaper a short time ago, that there were more people to be found in the public-houses in Leicester on the Sabbath than in all the churches and chapels put together. That might or might not be an exaggerated statement; it was not for him to say. He was not there to suggest what remedy there might be for drunkenness and self-indulgence. He had less and less faith in direct legislation, however much it was thought to be needed, but he had great faith in personal sympathy, and he rejoiced, not only as an Englishman and Nonconformist, but as a Christian, in the event of that day—as an Englishman, because he found always that there clustered round their places of worship various agencies which were intended to tell, not only upon the spiritual, but on the social, intellectual, and material advancement of the people—as a Nonconformist, because they could give on those occasions practical manifestations of the great principle they asserted, and that was, that the kingdom of Christ was to be promoted by the agencies of His own people—that every Christian person, repudiating the idea that either priest, clergy, or minister was to have the exclusive privilege and honour of visiting the poor and irreligious classes and impressing on them the

importance and value of religion, should teach the principles of religion themselves to those of such classes who fell in their way. The state of things in London was terrible. He believed it to be true that in London there never passed a Lord's-day without there being more than a million people who never entered a place of worship. This was the same, to a certain extent, in all large populations, and he was afraid their village populations were not much better. It was especially in their rural districts where they needed this union principle. He had been connected with the Home Missionary Society for years, and could testify that in many of their county towns they had a poor weak Wesleyan chapel on one side of the street, and a Baptist chapel on the other side of the street, too often contending against each other. He prayed that God might give them wisdom and determination to discourage that state of things wherever they could, recognising the fact that there was so much in common between them. He did not wish to depreciate the cause of difference, nor do anything that should trench on the consciences of those on either side, but still he thought it was high time that that contention which had been their weakness so long should be done away with. There was no mission in the world better deserving of their attention than that of endeavouring, first of all, to interest themselves in the material condition of the people amongst whom they lived, and then it would be one of the best means of improving it by leading them to higher duties. He congratulated Mr. Harris on having had so much to do with this church, and was sure that he would carry it to a successful issue.

After an address of a religious complexion from the Rev. R. Harley, the Mayor announced subscriptions of 50*l.* each from Mr. E. S. Ellis, Mr. Harris, and Mr. J. Bennett. Mr. Morley promised 100*l.*, and an equal amount when the arrangements were completed. Mr. Swain also promised 50*l.*, and Mr. G. Vicars a like sum. A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Morley, M.P., was carried, as well as to the Mayor for presiding, and after singing, the Rev. S. C. Pike offered prayer and pronounced the benediction.

The Rev. Joseph Williams, late of the Collegiate Church, Leicester, has accepted the pastorate of the Congregational Church at Southend.

Mr. E. W. DALE, OF BIRMINGHAM, has met with an accident not far from Ventnor, where he went to preach last week at the opening of a new Congregational chapel. Mr. Dale was on Saturday on a visit to Carisbrooke Castle, and falling accidentally from one of the walls, about ten feet in height, he broke his arm and dislocated his elbow. Though the injury is not serious, and Mr. Dale is going on favourably, it will probably be two or three weeks before he entirely recovers from it.

UPPER KENNINGTON-LANE.—The fifteenth anniversary of the settlement of the Rev. J. Marchant over Esher-street Chapel, was held on Tuesday, July 2nd. After tea, provided by the ladies of the congregation, a public meeting was held in the schoolroom, tastefully decorated for the occasion. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the Rev. Baldwin Brown and the Rev. J. Thain Davidson, Moderator of the English Free Church Assembly. Addresses, expressive of sympathy with the work of the pastor, were delivered by the Revs. T. W. Aveling, R. Berry and P. J. Turquand, and also by the Revs. A. T. Edwards and McConnell Huxsey, clergymen of the neighbourhood. In the course of the evening it was stated that 360*l.* had been raised within the last two years for the purpose of improving the chapel.

HADHAM CROOK, HERTS.—The new Congregational mission church in the above village was opened for Divine service on Tuesday, July 9. The Rev. William Outhbertson, B.A., Bishop Stortford, preached in the afternoon, and the Rev. Henry Allon, D.D., in the evening. Both preachers lighted upon the same text, John vi. 68. Both sermons developed substantially the same course of thought and sentiment, yet with strong marks of individuality. This little church, which is greatly and deservedly admired, has been built chiefly by the influence and persevering exertions of the Rev. T. M. Nevnes, pastor of the church at Hadham Ford, aided by the deacons and members of the church and the Christian public both near and remote, including the Chapel Building Society and the Coward Trust Fund, and it is devoutly hoped that it will become a great and permanent blessing to the large and increasing population among which it is situated. Mr. Henry James Linsch presided at the harmonium. The arrangements for tea in the tent were admirable. The Rev. Keith Walden and the Rev. James Wood preached on the following Sunday. The Rev. D. Davis, B.A., Secretary of Herts Union, the Rev. William Murray, the Rev. J. Wood, the Rev. William Bullivant, and the Rev. J. M. Newnes took part in the interesting services of the occasion.

MARGATE.—On Monday last the memorial stone of the new rooms for the Sunday-schools connected with the Congregational Church in this watering-place was laid by W. Pearce, Esq., of the London School Board. After the singing of a hymn and prayer, Mr. Pearce duly laid the stone, and briefly expressed his sympathy with those friends who had commenced the work, and his pleasure in being able to assist them. In the course of his speech he expressed his preference for the principle of making religious and secular training distinct, and his greater confidence in the religious instruction given by voluntary than by professional teachers. He

claimed the co-operation of all present in the work of education. After a short speech from the Rev. H. W. Butcher, the pastor of the church, a collection was made towards the cost of the schools. An address was then delivered by the Rev. W. Baxendale, of Claremont Chapel, London, and singing and prayer brought the proceedings to a close. A tea-meeting followed, and there was afterwards a public meeting in the church, Mr. Pearce presiding. Mr. Butcher stated that the cost of the school would be 1,300*l.*, of which he hoped 500*l.* might be raised at once. Amongst the subsequent speakers were the Revs. — Davis, W. Baxendale, and J. R. Hargreaves (Wesleyan). The schoolrooms will be spacious and airy, and have class-rooms attached.

SURREY CHAPEL.—Thursday being the eighty-ninth anniversary of the opening of this chapel, a floral festival was held in commemoration of the event. Early in the evening the company were entertained in a large marquee erected outside, during which a conversation took place, enlivened by the performance of a clever sextet of bell-ringers. The various class-rooms attached to the chapel were decorated with photographs and drawings, the inspection of which served to while away the time till the adjournment to the building. The chapel was tastefully decorated with flowers, the pulpit and platform beneath it being fringed with large clusters of roses. The Rev. Newman Hall, in opening the proceedings, stated that the Lord Chancellor had promised to preside, but in his unavoidable absence, the presidential duties devolved upon him. He then introduced the Rev. Dr. Cuyler, of Brooklyn, U.S., who delivered an address on "America: its Institutions, Religious Activities, Social Customs, and Relations with Great Britain." His remarks were frequently applauded by the congregation, especially when, in allusion to the Alabama difficulty, he said it was his firm belief that there did not exist the Englishman nor American who would not deprecate a conflict between the two nations. The Rev. Newman Hall then addressed the congregation, and said that when he became the pastor of the Surrey Chapel money was being raised to help to swell the receipts of the "Rowland Hill Fund," which had suffered some diminution. With the assistance of the congregation and friends outside, he was glad to say that the fund was augmented to the extent of 10,000*l.* From the bazaar lately held at the chapel they had cleared a sum of 1,000*l.*, together with a contribution of 50*l.* from the Marquis of Westminster, and donations from the Duchess of Argyll, Lord Shaftesbury, &c. The reverend gentleman concluded by intimating that they had secured a site between Westminster and Waterloo bridges, at an expense of 8,200*l.*, and that the "Rowland Hill Fund," instead of being diminished, was in even a better condition than it was six months ago. Several other gentlemen spoke, and the festival was brought to a successful termination with a second conversation. The *Architect* reports that the designs for the new Surrey Tabernacle are to be sent in on the 20th July. Four architects have been invited to compete. The desire of the committee is "to combine in the new building the aesthetic tradition of the Christian Church, with the requirements of modern civilisation, Protestant worship, and oral instruction."

KENT CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—The eightieth annual assembly took place at Faversham on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 9 and 10. The Rev. T. Blandford, chairman for the year, presided at all its meetings, which were well attended, and excited deep interest. As usual in this series of meetings, the Kent Union held the first place on Tuesday afternoon. There was paid to twenty-four persons entitled to its benefits the sum of 450*l.* in annuities of 20*l.* each, and the sum of 70*l.* was voted in gratuities to eight specially necessitous cases. The method adopted is to fund all contributions, and to make an annual division of the dividends. The association sermon was preached in the evening by the Rev. George Martin, of Lewisham High-road, from 1 Pet. i. 19—"The precious blood of Christ." Afterwards a communion service was held in which representatives of several bodies of Christians united. The Revs. G. Shrewsbury, T. Waller, J. Geddes, Valentine Ward, A. Turner, and — Bax (Baptist), took part in these engagements. At the business meeting next morning, after the usual resolutions adopting the report and appointing committee and officers, grants were made to evangelistic stations and assisted churches of the aggregate amount of about 300*l.*; and it was reported that the Chapel Debt Extinction Fund had, in the two years of its existence, effected the payment of about 8,000*l.* of debt in the county. After some discussion on the terms of the membership of churches with the association, on which subject certain resolutions were agreed to, the meeting resolved itself into a conference. Prayer having been offered by the Rev. W. T. Blenkarn, of Milton, the Rev. T. Blandford read a paper on "Pressing public questions," referring particularly to the licensing system, and to the education question. On this latter topic speeches were delivered by Revs. D. G. Watt, M.A., J. R. Thomson, M.A., W. T. Blenkarn, George Martin, G. L. Herman, and W. H. Hill; and the following resolution, supported by all the speakers, was carried *nem. con.*—

That this association, while regarding religious instruction as of primary importance in the education of the young, is satisfied that such instruction cannot be justly and efficiently given in schools supported by public money, and records its conviction that the Elementary Education Act of 1870, in making provisions which encourage denominational teaching,

and in being worked by the educational department of the Government with a preference to denominationalism, perpetrates an injury on children by educating them in sects instead of as members of one nation. This association, therefore, expresses its concurrence with the principle enunciated by the Manchester Nonconformist Conference, that no national system of education should be maintained except one which provides for united secular instruction, and leaves religious instruction to educational agencies which are independent of State support.

At the evening public meeting for the enforcement and illustration of Church principles and work, after devotional engagements, the secretary, the Rev. R. T. Verrall, B.A., of Greenwich, made a statement of the society's work for the past twelve months; the Rev. J. R. Thomson, M.A., spoke on "Congregationalism: its past and present work"; the Rev. W. H. Butcher, on "Personal devoutness, the condition of success in religious work"; and the Rev. T. Sissons, on "Union for Christian work." The warmest hospitality was shown by the friends at Faversham, and the meetings were every way successful.

THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON AT ADDESTONE.—On Friday last Mr. Spurgeon paid a visit to the village of Addestone, near Weybridge, to lay the foundation-stone of a new Baptist chapel, of which the Rev. Edward Leach is the pastor. A place of worship formerly stood upon the site of the projected new erection, but it was in a dilapidated condition, and the congregation, which is comprised almost entirely of the working classes, boldly undertook the task of finding funds to build another. The modest sum of 1,240*l.* is, we understand, all that was required for the building fund. Of this sum nearly 500*l.* has been provided; and, desirous of aiding in the work, Mr. Spurgeon, in addition to forwarding a handsome donation, undertook to officiate at the laying of the foundation-stone, and to preach a sermon. The ceremonial portion of the programme was got through early in the afternoon, Mr. Spurgeon delivering a short address, in which he warmly resented the charge so frequently laid against the Nonconformists that they were schismatics. But he did know one Church that was full of schism, and in which both the clergy and laity seemed to hate each other with a pure heart fervently. The Church of England reminded him of the "happy family" that might have been seen on Waterloo-bridge, the keeper of which had pretty often to wrap the nose of the cat in a cloth lest it should eat up the rat. In the Establishment they might see the Evangelical cat attacking the Puseyite rat. There were at the least three distinct sorts in that Church in a state of unfraternal disaffection; and for these people, in the midst of their private fights, to turn round and call the Dissenters, who were at peace among themselves, by the name of schismatics, seemed to him to be the very height of absurdity and impudence. By its internecine strife the Establishment was surely hastening its own downfall. As to the present duty of Dissenters, their first duty was to stay where they are. If ever there was a time when they had no thought of going back to the Church of England, it was the present time. Even if the Established pulpits were Evangelical, instead of, to a large extent, Romish, so long as the Episcopal Church remained in connection with the State the Dissenters could not go back; but when things had come to such a pass that it would be difficult to discover any difference between the Church of England and the Church of Rome—except that in some respects the Church of England seemed the worse of the two—the idea of going back was altogether out of the question. Even when the Anglican lady's face was clean they had no affection for her; but now, when that face was dirty and disfigured, and her robes foul, because of her rank Romanism, they turned away from her with loathing and disgust. Their Nonconformity must be as lasting as the connection of the Church of England with Rome and the State. After the address the foundation-stone was utilised as a receptacle for offerings, over which Mr. Spurgeon, sitting on the wall, and shaded from the sun by an umbrella reverently held over his head by a disciple, jovially presided. The total amounts thus presented reached nearly 100*l.* At half-past five the bulk of the congregation assembled in a tent raised under the Crouch or Cross Oak, a remarkable tree of great antiquity, under whose branches Wycliffe is said to have preached, and Queen Elizabeth to have dined. After the multitude had taken tea, Mr. Spurgeon preached from the 36th verse of the 9th chapter of Matthew—"He was moved with compassion." He concluded by an eloquent appeal to his hearers to lose no time in seeking salvation calling "heaven and earth, and this old tree, under which the Gospel was preached 500 years ago, to bear witness that he had preached to them the word of God, in which alone salvation was to be found." The sermon occupied exactly an hour in the delivery, and was listened to throughout with profound attention. When it was over Mr. Spurgeon held a sort of *levée* from the pulpit, the people pressing round to shake his hand, and it was nearly nine o'clock before the last of the congregation had passed away leaving Wycliffe's Tree to its accustomed solitude.

A gushing poet asks in the first line of a recent effusion, "How many weary pilgrims lie?" We give it up, but experience has taught us that there are a good many.—*Yankee paper.*

The china manufacturers of the Staffordshire potteries have decided upon an early advance in their prices, to meet the increased cost of fuel and materials.

Correspondence.

THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW OF MAINE
VINDICATED.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—“A Cosmopolitan,” whose letter appears in your issue of July 4, has given your readers some useful information respecting the liquor laws of Maine and Ohio; but the information is so very incomplete respecting Maine, and is mixed up with so much gossip and crude opinion, that the reader will be likely, unless unusually intelligent and cautious, to be misled. As this cannot be the desire either of yourself or of “A Cosmopolitan,” I hope you will again grant me the privilege of supplementing your correspondent's remarks, especially so far as the State of Maine is concerned. I ask this more especially because your correspondent refers so pointedly to my previous letter, and because I am in possession of the most ample, most recent, and most conclusive testimony from the highest official authorities in that State relating to the very point in issue—the working and results of the Prohibitory Liquor Laws. Let me first set myself right with your correspondent, who does me injustice when he says that I “need not have insinuated that my (his) informant was an Irishman of a low type.” Now, I did not insinuate this “at all at all.” I felt sure from what “A Cosmopolitan” reported on the authority of “A Maine Man,” that he could not be a native-born American, or that he would be more intelligent as to the facts, and more careful as to his generalisations; and I guessed that he was of the country and “style of Meehan and McCarthy”—i.e. the “romantic” style! I was right in my first, partly right in my second, and altogether right in my third inference. This “working man from Maine” is not a native American, he was “born in England,” but is still, for all that, of the “romantic style,” and ought not to object to be classed with Meehan and McCarthy, both highly respectable men in the estimation of all who oppose or discredit the Maine Liquor Law.

But “A Cosmopolitan” has now a second and a more weighty authority to fall back upon. He says, “Since I mentioned this subject before, I have, however, met an English clergyman who is also an abstainer, and he positively asserts that when he was in Portland in December last the law was not then enforced. He saw plenty of drink openly sold, and he came across plenty of instances of intoxication.” Now, suppose we admit the full force and extent of this statement as sober truth, with no fringe or tinge of romance—“plenty of drink openly sold in Portland in December last,” and “several instances of intoxication”—I ask whether this proves the wild and romantic general assertion in “A Cosmopolitan's” former letter, “The result of the Maine Law is decidedly to promote drunkenness amongst working men.” “A Cosmopolitan” should try to understand that Portland is not the State of Maine, and that “last December” was not the only period of the operation of the Maine Liquor Law, which now has a history of more than twenty years! And it is one thing to say that a good law is occasionally, and in certain places, more or less evaded or even defied, and another thing to assert that the law works out the totally opposite result it was intended to promote—which was the gist and scope of the romantic assertion I contended against and denounced last March, and which I still contend against and denounce, whoever the romancer may be, and wherever his testimony may appear.

I have before me “testimonies” from a cloud of witnesses holding the highest and most responsible public positions in the State of Maine—from the Governor, all the Senators and members of Congress from the State, a number of the judges, mayors and ex-mayors of Portland and Bangor, aldermen, city clerks of Portland and Bangor, two leading cities of the State, the sheriff, the clerk, and registrar of Cumberland, county Maine, and the leading clergymen of nearly every denomination in the State. And I have the autograph signatures of all these gentlemen, and many others that space will not allow me particularly to refer to—all testifying to the exact opposite conclusion and testimony of what “A Cosmopolitan” reports in his communication to the *Nonconformist*. The sum and substance of this testimony is to the effect that not more than one-fourth, most of them say not one-tenth, of the liquor that used to be sold and drunk in Maine before the prohibitory laws were enacted, is now sold and consumed in the State. They admit that there are evasions at times, and in certain places. Governor Perham says: “In some places liquor is sold secretly in violation of the law, as many other offences are committed against the statutes and the peace and good order of society; but in large districts of the State, the liquor-traffic is nearly or quite unknown, where formerly it was carried on like any other trade.” The Hon. W. P. Frye, ex-Attorney-General of the State of Maine, and now one of the representatives in Congress, states: “I can, and do, from my own personal observation, unhesitatingly affirm that the consumption of intoxicating liquors in Maine is not today one-fourth so great as it was twenty years ago; that in the country portions of the State, the sale and use have almost entirely ceased; that the law itself, under a vigorous enforcement of its provisions, has created a

temperance sentiment which is marvellous, and to which opposition is powerless.” These expressions are entirely and unhesitatingly concurred in and endorsed by the Hon. L. N. M. Morrill, the Hon. E. Y. Blaine, and the Hon. H. Hamlin, the three Maine Senators in Congress. Mr. Hamlin adds: “In the great good produced by the Prohibitory Liquor Law of Maine, no man can doubt who has seen the results. It has been of immense value.” Mr. Wolcott Hamlin, the Supervisor of Internal Revenue for the district including Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, states: “In the course of my duty as an internal revenue officer, I have become thoroughly acquainted with the state and extent of the liquor traffic in Maine, and I have no hesitation in saying that the beer-trade is not more than one per cent. of what I remember it to have been, and the trade in distilled spirits is not more than 10 per cent. of what it was formerly.” The chairman and members of the Board of Overseers of the Poor of Portland, have each signed the following declaration, dated Portland June 4, 1872: “If liquor-shops exist at all in this city it is with secrecy and great caution, and the same thing is true generally throughout the State. The favourable effect of this (prohibitory) policy is very evident, particularly in the department of pauperism and crime. While the population of the city increases, pauperism and crime diminish, and in the department of police the number of arrests and commitments is very much less than formerly.”

I enclose you a printed copy of the “testimonies” from this cloud of witnesses, in *extenso*, the autograph copies of which can be seen by any one who pleases, at any moment. They are all dated between the 28th of May and 10th of June of the present year—almost, if not quite, as recent as “A Cosmopolitan's” last letter. They are from not less than eighty-two individual witnesses, in addition to a conference of Baptist ministers, and a convention of Good Templars, who unanimously voted their testimony to the same general effect. These testimonies have been sent direct to myself through General Neal Dow, and have been published in the *Alliance News* of June 22nd and of June 29th; and I will gladly send a copy to any one who wishes to have it. I enclose a copy for the editor, and one for “A Cosmopolitan.”

I conclude by quoting the testimony of a medical gentleman of Portland, Maine, dated May 30th, 1872, and which appeared in the *Scotsman* of June 13th. It is the more remarkable and valuable, seeing that it is written by one who is not a teetotaler, and not an adherent of the Maine Liquor Law, and is addressed to an influential newspaper hostile to the whole temperance movement. I quote the letter entire, as it appeared in the *Scotsman*—

Portland, Maine, May 30, 1872.

SIR,—In your editorial remarks of May 11, upon the Permissive Bill, I notice an allusion to the supposed inefficiency of the “Liquor Bill” in Maine and Massachusetts, which is inaccurate so far as Maine is concerned. Here in Portland, the largest city in the State, and, by the way, the home of Neal Dow, the originator of the prohibitory law, there is not, nor has there been since April 1, when the revised statute came into operation, either grogshop, drinking house, bar, or place of any sort or description where either spirits, wine, beer, cider, or any kind of intoxicating drink can be produced, excepting that in some hotels it has been sent clandestinely to the private rooms of the inmates; and some druggists exceed their sufferance to dispense alcoholic liquors at the prescription of a physician, and these infringements are being inevitably suppressed by the vigilance of officers appointed for the purpose. I am not a teetotaler, nor am I convinced that the law is desirable; but I assure you that in this city—and I believe the same is true of the whole State—it is effectual in abolishing all ordinary tippling, especially among the poorer classes; and I have not seen an intoxicated person since the enforcement of the present Act. There are ways by which private wine-cellars can be replenished, but there is no mode by which the labourer can squander his daily earnings for drink.

I am, &c.,

S. FITCH, M.D., Edin.

I might multiply these testimonies indefinitely, but I think I have given more than sufficient to satisfy your most prejudiced and most sceptical readers that there has been at least a little of the romantic in the stories told to, and repeated by, “A Cosmopolitan,” and that the Maine Liquor Law is not a farce—not a failure—but is a power for good in the cause of sobriety and social progress.

I remain, Sir, very respectfully

THOS. H. BARKER,

Sec. U. K. Alliance.

41, John Dalton-street, Manchester,
July 15, 1872.

THE LIBERAL PARTY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The time is evidently come when the Liberal party requires complete organisation. The old Liberal Associations already existing in the principal towns, must be prepared to take a step or two in advance, at least up to the position of complete religious equality, or must give place to some vigorous organisation; but even in the cases where the old party are willing to move, they should call to their councils the more advanced men.

The action proposed at the magnificent Manchester Conference is certainly most admirable, and probably for the purpose of enlightening and rousing up the people to action, the Nonconformist Committee,

together with the Liberation Society and the Education League, are just the kind of educational agencies that are required. May I, however, venture to suggest whether, in preparing for the next election, when other subjects besides the grand question of religious equality, will have to be considered, it would not be wiser to have a larger platform, making this subject the chief plank. Indeed, would not this be the most practical method of “gathering up” the results of past efforts?

There are several other questions requiring very early attention—such as the Land Laws, the Reform of the House of Lords, the County Franchise, and the Redistribution of Seats. Would it not be the part of wisdom, while directing the chief attention to the State Church and Education, to join in supporting a still more comprehensive programme, which would have the effect of securing a larger and more general support even for those questions so dear to the hearts of your readers? I think it will be admitted that there are many really true Liberals who, from various causes, do not understand what religious equality means, and who, in the educational battle especially, fancy it is a mere squabble between the sects, and therefore hold aloof; and it seems to me one important, though indirect, advantage of adopting a fuller programme, would be to secure the active assistance of many whose help we should otherwise lose. I do not propose the formation of a propagandist society to agitate these questions throughout the length and breadth of the land—as that is being done already on most of the subjects—but I would respectfully suggest whether there should not be established in the centre of every large population an organisation for practical work, upon something like the following platform:—

1. To combine all advanced Liberals in support of perfect religious equality, by seeking the disestablishment and disendowment of the English and Scottish National Churches, and the removal of all civil disabilities on account of religion.
2. To procure a system of national education, free from sectarian influence and denominational control, by securing united secular and and separate religious teaching, the instruction in religion being provided for by voluntary agencies.
3. To seek an amendment of the land laws.
4. To obtain a reform of the House of Lords.
5. To secure a redistribution of seats and an equal franchise for boroughs and counties.
6. To promote the candidature of suitable persons for Parliamentary and school board elections.
7. And, generally, to assist in all useful and practical political reform.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

SAMUEL TOMKINS.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, July, 1872.

OLD PERIODICALS FOR THE POOR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you allow me space in your columns to solicit from your readers gifts of odd numbers of any interesting publications which may have been laid aside by them as being no longer required, such as the *Leisure Hour*, *Sunday at Home*, *British Workman*, *Band of Hope Review*, *Chatterbox*, &c.?

It has been found in practice in this neighbourhood that though the poor may reject or receive with perfect indifference ordinary religious tracts, they will gladly receive such publications as I have named, the pictorial illustrations being specially attractive; and after a time we may hope they will become so interested in these useful works as to purchase them for themselves.

Yours,

J. A. MERRINGTON.

Feltham, Middlesex, July 13, 1872.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

In the Commons on Wednesday, Mr. Morrison, in moving the second reading of the Proportional Representation Bill, reminded the House of the possibility of a change of Ministry, and the extreme probability, should such an event occur, that Mr. Gladstone would again raise the question of reform—household suffrage in counties and a redistribution of seats. He especially dreaded, as a final result of reform on the old lines, the establishment of equal electoral districts, the evils of which he enumerated. The object of the bill was to allot representatives according to population, the number being rearranged at each decennial census. The present boundaries would be to a great extent retained, but in some instances small boroughs would be merged in counties, and small counties would be grouped. The essential characteristic of the measure was the application to each constituency of Mr. Hare's scheme of preferential voting. It would diminish bribery and intimidation, it would attract to the polling-booths men of intelligence and education who now do not vote at all, and it would make eminent politicians safe for a seat and relieve them from the humiliation of truckling to local cliques. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hughes, and the debate was continued by Sir Charles Dilke, who moved as an amendment—

That no measure dealing with the redistribution of electoral representation will be satisfactory to this House which does not extend to Scotland and Ireland, and which does not give an equal share of political power to all electors.

Mr. Blenhardest seconded the amendment. Mr. Collins supported the principle of proportional representation, by which alone a variety of representation could be secured when in course of time our constituencies were made more uniform. After some further discussion, Colonel Corbett remarked on the silence of the Government on the bill, and Mr. Winterbotham replied that the Government had no collective opinion upon it, and that it raised too abstract a question for them to consider it in a practical light. Mr. Morrison then withdrew his bill in favour of Sir Charles Dilke's amendment, which on a division was rejected by 154 to 26.

THE WASHINGTON TREATY.

On Thursday, Lord Kimberley, in moving the second reading of the Treaty of Washington Bill, stated that it was necessary in order to carry into operation the fishery clauses of the treaty. It would, however, only come into operation upon the Congress of the United States passing a similar Act, which it was expected to do in December next. The dissatisfaction with which the Treaty of Washington was at first received in Canada had now almost passed away, as it was found to be more favourable to the Dominion than was at first supposed. Lord Salisbury observed that other than mere sentimental considerations had, perhaps, weighed with the Parliament of the Dominion—namely, the consent given by the Home Government to a certain financial operation which might be added to the price we should have to pay for the treaty. Lord Kimberley stated that the guarantee of a loan of 2,500,000*l.* in aid of the Dominion canals and the Pacific Railroad was not to be proposed until the Treaty of Washington came into effect, and accordingly the bill authorising the guarantee would not be introduced until next session.

THE LICENSING BILL.

In the Commons on Thursday Mr. Bruce moved the second reading of the Licensing Bill, which has passed the House of Lords. Its main objects, he said, were to improve the present system of licensing and to strengthen and consolidate the police regulations. He admitted that there was no direct provision for the reduction in the number of public-houses, but this end would be obtained in regard to the lower class of houses by the more stringent police regulations and an alteration in the mode of valuation. As to the hours of closing, after canvassing all arguments on this point, he expressed his readiness to consider the suggestions which might be offered for devising an elastic system, and giving a certain amount of discretion to the local authorities. With regard to grocers' licences, Mr. Bruce said that, though the magistrates' licences might be dispensed with, he thought that they ought to be under the same regulations as to adulteration and hours of closing. In committee he should propose clauses extending the operation of the bill as far as applicable to Ireland.

In the debate which followed, Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson, Sir W. Lawson, Mr. Goldney, Sir R. Anstruther, Mr. Wheelhouse, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Locke, and Mr. D. Dalrymple took part, affirming a general approval of the principle of the bill, and suggesting numerous amendments of detail. Mr. Dodson therefore suggested that the better course would be to go into committee on the bill at once. Mr. Henley objected to all legislation of the kind, as calculated to be mischievous, while Mr. Lawrence took exception to the title of the bill as an insult to licensed victuallers. After some remarks from Mr. Bates, Mr. Pim, and Mr. Bruce, the bill was read a second time.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

In the Commons on Friday, Mr. Pease moved the second reading of the Vaccination Act Amendment Bill, the purpose of which was to repeal the cumulative penalties on parents who refuse to have their children vaccinated. Mr. Monk and Mr. C. S. Read urged the rejection of the bill. Dr. Playfair, who was a member of the committee which last year unanimously recommended the limitation of penalties, recalled his opinion, and declared himself wholly opposed to the resolution of the committee. Mr. S. Cave and Mr. H. Lewis also spoke against the bill. Mr. Forster regarded the question entirely as a matter of expediency. Penalties had no effect on those who were conscientiously opposed to vaccination, as long as the State was not prepared to take the child by force from the parent to vaccinate it. Penalties, when they were repeated, created a feeling which rather impeded the spread of vaccination. In the same time, he advised the withdrawal of the bill for the present. Mr. Candlish prevented a decision on the bill by talking it out, and the debate stood adjourned.

SCOTCH EDUCATION BILL.

In the House of Lords on Friday, on the order of the day for going into committee on the Scotch Education Bill, the Archbishop of Canterbury expressed his anxiety lest a purely secular system of education should be substituted in Scotland for a religious one. The Duke of Richmond, on the interpretation clause, moved an amendment which raised the question of the constitution of the board. He wished to have a Scotch board instead of a board sitting and meeting in the Privy Council Office in London. The Duke of Argyll defended the clause, and Lord Colonsay supported while Lord Airlie opposed the amendment. Lord Kinaird declared that the bill was unpopular in Scotland, and argued in favour of a Scotch board. Lord Ripon said the Privy Council had administered the Parliamentary grant for many years in Scotland, and that fewer difficulties and complaints had arisen

than in England. As to the board proposed by the Duke of Richmond, he thought that Parliament would never trust a body not directly responsible to it with the initiation and preparation of financial proposals. On a division the amendment was carried by 81 to 70. The Duke of Richmond, on Clause 3, again moved to substitute a Scotch board for the commission proposed by the bill. Lord Ripon and the Duke of Argyll appealed to the House to reconsider their former vote. The Duke of Richmond regretted he could not assent, and the amendment was substituted for the clause without a division. On Clause 50, the Duke of Richmond moved an amendment to entitle the principal teacher to the proceeds of any endowments, &c. The Duke of Argyll objected, and after some discussion the amendment was withdrawn, and the clause was agreed to. On a subsequent clause Lord Airlie moved as an amendment that public examiners should be appointed to grant certificates of competency to schoolmasters. Lord Ripon objected on the ground that the matter should be left to the Education Department. On a division the amendment was rejected by 36 to 34. A new clause, giving greater facilities for the removal of incompetent masters, was, on the motion of the Duke of Richmond, agreed to. The Duke of Richmond moved that the times of religious teaching should be either at the beginning or end of the meeting of the school. The Duke of Argyll assented, and the clause was added to the bill. On the preamble the Duke of Richmond moved to insert the following words:—"Whereas it has been the usage in Scotland, sanctioned by legislation, to provide for religious instruction in public schools as an essential part of education, it is desirable in extending education to afford means for continuing such religious instruction, unless the parents object on conscientious grounds." The amendment was opposed by Lord Dalhousie, and supported by Lord Colonsay. The Duke of Argyll thought the cause of religious education might safely be left to the people of Scotland themselves, but on a division the amendment was carried by 53 to 32, and the bill was passed through committee.

THE BALLOT BILL.

At the day sitting of the Commons on Friday, Mr. Forster announced the course which the Government intended to take with regard to the remaining points of difference between the Government and the House of Lords with regard to the Ballot Bill. As to the use of the school-rooms, he proposed to meet the difficulty by introducing into the Education Code a provision that the schools shall not suffer by reason of any shortcomings in the attendance caused by the room being used for polling purposes. As to the declaration to be made by the illiterate voter, he proposed to retain the declaration, but to add that it should be made before a registered elector. As to the limitation of the bill to the year 1880, notwithstanding that it had its inconvenience, he moved to assent to it, since it would give an opportunity not only for remedying any defects which experience might reveal, but also for the opponents of the ballot to recant their objections. After some remarks from Mr. O. Morgan, Mr. Yorke, Sir R. Knightley, Sir M. Hicks Beach, Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Corranoe, and Mr. M. Henry, Mr. Gladstone urged the House to confine its attention to the particular amendments before it, instead of straying into a general debate. Lord J. Manners contended that it was Mr. Forster who had challenged this general discussion by his opening speech. Sir J. Elphinstone, Mr. T. Collins, Mr. G. Goldney, and Colonel Beresford having also spoken, the House proceeded with the consideration of the amendments. The arrangement suggested by Mr. Forster for remunerating school managers for the use of the school-rooms was agreed to; but on the amendment limiting the bill to the year 1880, Mr. Vernon Harcourt protested, while Mr. Percy Wyndham defended the Lords, and the amendment was then accepted.

A discussion was subsequently raised on the amendment relating to the illiterate clause; Mr. Liddell and others objecting to the proposed oral declaration, and to its being made before a registered elector. It was suggested that this might lead to fraud and collusion, and that the better course would be to have the declaration made before the returning officer, who could make a record of it. In the end Mr. Forster offered to amend the amendment by inserting the words that a written declaration of inability to read should be made, and that it should be so made before the returning officer at the time of polling. This compromise was agreed to, and a committee was appointed to draw up reasons for disagreeing with the Lords' amendments.

In the Lords on Monday, on the consideration of the Commons' amendments and their reasons for disagreeing to the Lords' amendments to the Ballot Bill, Lord Ripon said that the days during which schools were employed as polling-places would be counted as attendances. Lord Chelmsford observed that the word "employed" would perhaps cover the days during which the schools were being made ready as polling-places. Lord Ripon said that the clause would include the whole of the time during which the scholars were deprived of the use of the school. The amendment was then agreed to. Lord Ripon moved that their lordships accept the Commons' amendment on the illiterate voters clause. The Duke of Richmond said that he would have better liked his own amendment, that the voter should make a declaration before the returning officer, but if the Government preferred that he should deliver a written declaration that he could neither read nor write, he had no objection. This

amendment was also agreed to. Lord Ripon stated that the word "polling-place" had been inserted in the amendment by mistake for "polling-station," and that it would be necessary for the bill to be *pro forma* sent back to the Commons for verbal amendment.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee on the Public Health Bill, Mr. W. M'C. Trench proposed an instruction to the committee in favour of making provision for erecting dwellings for the working classes in the room of the room of which might be pulled down under Acts of Parliament, but on a promise from Mr. Stansfeld that the subject would be taken up by the Government next session, it was withdrawn, and on the motion of Mr. Pell the debate was adjourned.

Yesterday, after a protracted debate, the bill was allowed to go into committee.

BILLS WITHDRAWN.

On Monday, in reply to an inquiry from Colonel Wilson Patten, who pointed out that there were 98 orders of the day on the paper, in addition to at least four nights required for supply, the Indian budget, and the Galway Election.

Mr. Gladstone went through the ceremony usually known as the "Massacre of the Innocents." The rite on this occasion embraced only seven measures, which he described as standing in a row on the orders like criminals waiting execution—viz., two Irish measures (the Grand Jury Presentments and the County Officers), one Scotch bill (the Land Transfer Bill), the Juries Bill, Master and Servants' Wages Bill, Metropolitan Police Superannuation Bill, and the Contagious Diseases Prevention Bill. At this last announcement there was considerable cheering. He meant to proceed with the two Mines Bills, the Public Health Bill, the Licensing Bill, and the Corrupt Practices Bill, with this reservation, however, as to the last—that it would be proceeded with only if the House wished it after seeing the Government amendments, which he hinted would be extensive. The Thames Embankment Bill, the Local Government (Ireland) Bill, the Enclosure Bill, the Education Act (Elections) Bill, and the Merchant Shipping Bill he hoped also to pass.

Pressed by Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Bouverie, and others, to name a day for the discussion of Mr. Justice Keogh's judgment, Mr. Gladstone ultimately named the 25th inst. as the most convenient day; but until the Attorney-General for Ireland had finished reading, and had made his report on the final instalment of the evidence, he was unable to state whether the Government would make a motion of their own or would leave the day open for some private member to take action. The morning sitting of Friday next was fixed for the Education and the Science and Art Votes, and inquiries were made as to other minor measures, but no definite intimation was made with regard to them. Mr. Gladstone, in conclusion, appealed to private members to withdraw their bills, about which at this period of the session they could no longer have anything to hope or to fear, and he hinted that after this week the Government would ask for a share of the time now belonging to private members. Mr. Newdegate, however, protested against this, and Mr. Gladstone said he would not persevere against the general feeling of the House.

LOCALISATION OF OUR MILITARY FORCES.

At a late hour on Monday, Mr. Cardwell moved the second reading of the Military Forces Localisation (Expenses) Bill, which provides for the cost of the localisation scheme—viz., 3,500,000*l.* In support of the Bill Mr. Cardwell went once more over the principal heads of the plan, which he had explained in detail on moving the Army Estimates, and dwelt on the efficient means of military defence which it would provide at what he maintained was a moderate cost.

Mr. Richard ventured to say that the scheme of the right hon. gentleman would prove exceptionally fortunate if in two or three years after it had come into operation it was not assailed by the representatives of the services in that House and out of it as wholly unsatisfactory, if not absolutely worthless. (Hear, hear.) Such, at any rate, had been the fate of every addition and modification made in our military establishments for the last twenty-five years, and the advocates of large armaments were like a spoiled and fretful child, always crying for some new toy. (Hear, hear.) He objected to this bill, because it involved a large expenditure of public money upon what was a pure experiment, and probably a doubtful experiment, and because it covered the country with a network of military institutions, the tendency of which was to make us what we had always deprecated, namely, a military nation. (Hear, hear.) He objected principally to this bill because, in his opinion, these new centres would exercise a most injurious influence upon the public morality. The evils of large military establishments were not merely that they were enormously costly, and that they tended to foster the spirit of war, but that also they were too often the schools for immorality and vice. It was vain to disguise from themselves that the moral condition of their army and navy had been and was still to a large extent simply appalling. Wherever they planted a body of soldiers they planted a corrupting and demoralising agency. (Hear, hear.) In support of his statement the hon. member cited the testimony of Colonel Dickson, once a member of

that House, to the effect that he looked upon the camp at Aldershot as a sink of corruption and iniquity. With regard to the camp at the Curragh, there appeared a few years ago in a London journal the reports of a special commissioner who was sent to inspect the state of things at that camp, and therein were made allusions which shocked and horrified the whole community. Were not the Contagious Diseases Acts a confession, trumpet-tongued, that the profligacy and vice of the army had grown to proportions so monstrous and dangerous that the Government was driven to enact laws that contained something very like the licensing of vice by the State in order to enable the soldiers to escape from the consequences of their own acts? And now they were going to plant those centres of vice and disease all over the kingdom. (Hear.) Sir J. Bowring wrote to him from Exeter, that in that city seventy illegitimate births had been the result of the presence of a single regiment. He could not resist entering his protest against these centres, which he believed would turn out to be centres of vice and corruption.

Colonel Barttelot likewise spoke against the bill, recommending the Government at least to make it a tentative measure, and to take the money for it by annual votes. Mr. Hardy protested, on behalf of the University of Oxford, against the establishment of a centre at Oxford.

Mr. Pease protested, on the part of his county (Durham), against the establishment of a military centre there. We had in this country barrack accommodation for 135,000. The whole of that might not, for sanitary reasons, be available, but still a large margin remained which must be fit for the purpose. The places in which the army could be best recruited were those places in which the labour market was the lowest. The idea of recruiting these regiments nationally was perfectly ludicrous. Eleven thousand of the inhabitants of Sunderland had presented a petition praying that that town might not be made a military depot, and the respectable people of every town in the kingdom had the same wish that the town in which they lived might not be made a military centre. Although at the outset this measure might have been looked upon favourably, yet now every town regarded it unfavourably.

Sir J. Pakington regarded it as a violation of public feeling that soldiers should be exempt from the duty of maintaining their illegitimate children, and expressed his hope that in future years that exemption would disappear from the Mutiny Act. (Hear, hear.)

In reply to a question, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that the present intention was to raise the money out of the balances without incurring any debt.

Mr. Holmes moved the adjournment of the debate, to which Mr. Cardwell consented after some unavailing remonstrances.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Indian financial statement is to be made on August 2.

A statement in the *Observer* that Parliament is likely to rise on August 6, is believed to be premature. Thursday, the 8th, is held to be the more probable day.

On Monday, Mr. Lowe, having been invited by Sir Thomas Chambers to express his opinion on the civil service co-operative associations, said that as long as they were limited to the supply of civil servants only he had no objection, and would not attempt to stop them even if he had the power. But when these associations went on to sell to persons not belonging to their body, he viewed them with disapprobation. While the civil servants gave to the public service all the time to which it was entitled, he had no power to interfere with them.

On Monday, in reply to Mr. Eykyn, who inquired whether it was the intention of the Government to proceed to trial with the indictments against the person claiming the Tichborne estates, the Attorney-General said that the case was in the hands of Mr. Hawkins, and that he had no reason to believe that the Home Office intended to abandon the prosecution.

Mr. Vernon Harcourt asked whether in consequence of recent convictions under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1871, the Government would bring in a bill this session to amend and define the law, or afford facilities for the discussion of a measure having that object. Mr. Gladstone said that the Government were not prepared to introduce any bill this session upon the subject, because he understood that out of a hundred cases there had only been a difference of opinion in four.

Lord Derby will on Monday next call attention to the case of Dr. Hooker, the Director of Kew Gardens.

Mr. Forster stated, in answer to Mr. Backhouse, that no statistical information had reached the Government with reference to the prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease among cattle, but that he had reason to believe that in some districts the disease was prevalent.

In answer to Mr. Lea, Mr. Monsell said that to reduce the price of telegrams to sixpence each would entail much additional labour upon the Post Office, and that until the new Post Office was completed there would be no room for more wires or more clerks.

On Friday evening Mr. Eastwick moved that the control of our relations with Persia should be transferred to the India Office, and that the payment for the expenses of our mission in Persia should be readjusted. The motion was seconded

by Sir Charles Wingfield, and supported by Mr. Bourke. Lord Enfield could not assent to the proposition that the Secretary of State should be bound by the resolution of a committee, inasmuch as it would virtually be to transfer the responsibilities of a Minister of the Crown to a committee of the House. After some further discussion, Mr. Gladstone as a matter of imperial policy also opposed the motion. The experience of the Foreign Office was in the scale against it. So also was the experience of Lord Palmerston and Lord Clarendon. On a division the motion was rejected by 90 to 60.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

CLASSIFIED MATRICULATION LIST—JUNE, 1872.

The following is a classified list of candidates who passed the late examination for matriculation:—

HONOURS DIVISION.—John Viriamii Jones, University College School and Normal College, Swansea (Exhibition of thirty pounds per annum for two years); Martin Lewis, King's School, Chester, and Amersham Hall (Exhibition of twenty pounds per annum for two years); Henry Forster Morley, University College School (Exhibition of fifteen pounds per annum for two years); Micaiah John Müller Hill, Mission School, Blackheath (prize of ten pounds); John Reed White, Liverpool Institute (prize of five pounds); Hartmann Wolfgang Just, Bristol Grammar School (prize of five pounds); Claude Metford Thompson, Independent College, Taunton; John Arthur Owen, Liverpool Institute and private study; Llewelyn Wansbrough Jones, New Kingswood School; Frederic Wood, Clevedon College, Northampton; and Joseph Little Heath, Caistor Grammar School and private study (obtained number of marks qualifying for a prize). George Corfield, Culham College and private tuition; Henry Ambrose Grundy Brooke, Chorlton High School, Manchester; Francis Walter Mahony, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Charles Edward Sheppard, the Temple, Brighton, and private tuition; Richard Stewart Harrison, King's College and private study; William Henry Harvey, Plymouth Grammar School and private study; Edward Ingram Taylor, Philological School; Thomas Wilson Douglas, Owen's College and private study; Edmund Dean, St. Marylebone and All Souls Grammar School; John Edward Betts, Bussage House, Stroud; John Cooling, Wesley College, Sheffield; John Holland Rose, Bedford Commercial School and Owen's College; George Stacey Alldridge, Grove House, Tottenham; Robert Bruce, Huddersfield College; Frederick Morgan, Queen Elizabeth's Hospital and Baptist College, Bristol; Robert Fletcher Ferguson, University College School; Samuel Alexander Hill, Training College, Dublin, Royal School of Mines, and private study; James Alfred Grainger, Chorlton High School, Manchester.

FIRST DIVISION.—Joseph Gundry Alexander, private tuition; Henry Appleton, Manchester Grammar School and private study; Wastell Arrowsmith, North London Collegiate School and private study; John Wallwork Ashworth, Owens College; Thomas Thorpe Aspinall, Tamworth Grammar School and private study; William Atkinson, private study; Joseph John Bader, Stonyhurst College; Richard Francis Ball, Queenwood and Owens Colleges; Joseph King Barnes, private study; William Edwin Barton, Cranbrook Grammar School; Alfred Benson, Giggleswick Grammar School; David Henry Bernard, University College School and private tuition; Felix Raymond Bernard, Beaumont College; John Dugdale Best, National School, Borough Bridge, and private tuition; John Henry Betts, Western College, Brighton, and University College School; Charles Francis Joseph Blount, Stonyhurst College; James Stanley Newton Boyd, Adelaide House, St. Helier; Alexander Stewart Brown, Epsom College; William Henry Brown, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Robert Wilson Browne, King Edward's School, Birmingham, and private tuition; William Robert Buckell, Independent College, Taunton; Edward Bucknall, private study; Alfred Burt, Albert College and Mr. Durham's School; Charles Francis Cagney, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Charles Henry Cattle, Woodhouse Grove School; Henry Laurence Champneys, Guy's Hospital and private study; Henry La Grange Dougan Chapman, private study; Herbert Frederick Chapman, Epsom College; Hubert Clarke, King Edward's School and Midland Institute, Birmingham; Thomas Furze Clarke, Crescent School, Margate, and King's College School; Frank Aspland Cooper, Queenwood and University Colleges and private tuition; Samuel Corner, Mr. Corner's School, and private study; Frederick Augustus Cox, Regent's Park College, and private tuition; George Cox, Downside College; George Henry Cressey, Tonbridge Grammar School and private tuition; Philip John Dear, Merchant Taylors' School, and St. Thomas's Hospital; Edward John Doherty, Proprietary School, Gravesend; James John Macwhirter Dunbar, Cheltenham College, and private tuition; William Eaton, Broughton High School, Manchester; Henry Edge, Saltley College, Birmingham, and Queen's Liverpool; Joseph Edwards, Richmond Terrace School, Stoke-on-Trent, and private tuition; Alfred Ely, Surbiton Park, and University College School, and private tuition; William Frederick Facer, Bangor Normal College, and private study; Frederick Richard Farrow, Philological School; Benjamin Neale Fernie, Spring Hill College and private study; William Foster, King's College and private study; Percy Herbert Edmund Freund, City of London

School and private study; James Percy Alwynne, Gabb, Manilla Hall, Clifton and private tuition; Bernard Faraday Giles, Merchant Taylors' School and private tuition; Edgar Bridden Granger, Hucknall National School and private study; Benjamin Lepard Green, Rawdon College and private study; Robert Venables Greene, Owens College; Henry George Greenish, Philological School; Major Greenwood, Merchant Taylors' School and private study; Warren Herbert Haime, Wesleyan College, Taunton; Frederick John Haines, City of London School and private tuition; Percy Hedley Hall, Blackheath Proprietary School and private tuition; John Kingdon Hargreaves, Kingswood School and Wesleyan, Taunton; Edward Hedley, Lancashire Independent and Owens Colleges; Alexander Hill, Grove House, Folkestone, and University College School; Charles Joseph Hill, St. Mary's College, Oscott; Joseph Shuter Hill, University College School and private tuition; John Hedgeson, Lyceum, Oldham, and Manchester Grammar School; James Hudson, Devizes Grammar School and private study; Frederick Nutcombe Hume, Marlborough and Wadham, Oxford, and private study; Henry Irving, Uppingham Grammar School and New College; Bertram Arthur Edward Jackson, Downside College; Vincent Hamilton Jackson, Stonyhurst College; Arthur Lloyd Jones, Bristol Grammar School and University College; Edward Jones, Pontypool and Rawdon Colleges; George Henry Jones, Bussage House, Stroud, and private tuition; Roger Hughes Jones, Denbigh Grammar School; John Flower Kempson, Mr. Kirk's School, Leamington, and University College School; James John Prior Kirk, Cleveland House, Nottingham, and private study; Francis Arnold Knight, Silecot School and Fludders College; John Kachariah Laurence, University College and School; Ernest Philip Alphonse Law, St. Mary's College, Oscott; Andrew Leonard, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; James John Willoughby Livett, Llandaff House, Cambridge, and Theobald's School; Benjamin Lomax, private study; Charles George Walton Lowdell, Epsom College; Emil Wilhelm Lüdtke, Liverpool Institute; Herbert Lynsey Manby, Epsom College; John Mare, private study; William Hall Marriott, Heath Brow School, University College, and private tuition; Joseph Henry Marsh, Nottingham High School and private tuition; Frank Herbert Marshall, Bussage House, Stroud; Thomas James Henwood Martin, Christ's Hospital, King's College, and private study; Arthur William May, private tuition; William Pope Mears, City of London School and private study; James Henry Mellenfield, Crescent School, Margate; Thomas Jasper Morgan, Whalley Grammar School; Frederick Blundell Moss, Rugby School, Trinity College Cambridge, and private study; John Moss, private study; Mountford Wyche Mountford, Kingswood School Wesleyan, Taunton; Charles James Nicholson, Stonyhurst College; William Rumney Nicholson, private study; John Enoch Parsonson, Woodhouse Grove and Wesleyan, Richmond; Reginald Paul, Highgate Grammar School and private tuition; William Carter Pedler, Mill Hill School; Samuel Thomas Plunbe, the Philbda, Maidenhead, and St. Bartholomew; James Harry Poland, Derwent House, Lee; John Thomas Proctor, Stonyhurst College; Arthur Pryce, Proprietary School, Gravesend; John Henry Pumphrey, Friends' School, York; James Robson Rendell, Preston Grammar School and private tuition; Alfred James Rendle, Clapham Grammar School; John Francis Richards, Kensington Proprietary School and private study; Joseph Richardson, Woodhouse Grove School and private study; Herbert Rix, Brighton and Regent's Park Colleges; George Roberts, Battersea Training College and private study; William Venis Robinson, Stratford House and Regent's Park College; George Rowell, Gainford Academy; John Reynolds Salter, Taunton College School; Henry Crunden Sargent, private study; James Troubridge Satchell, Wesleyan College, Richmond; Francis Scully, Stonyhurst College; Charles Brodie Searle, Rotherham Grammar School and private tuition; James Seward, private study; Richard Shaw, Wesleyan Trinity College, Westminster, and Owens; Thomas Steele Sheldon, Congleton Grammar School and Harrogate College; Johnathan Wigmore Sherlock, University School, Hastings; Robert Shindler, private study; John James Sidebottom, Stockport Grammar School, Owens College, and private study; Ernest Sutton Smith, Epsom College; Henry Gibson Smith, Hawthorn Hall and Owens College; William Smith, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; William James Southworth, Stockport Grammar School and Owens College; William Spiers, City of London and Headingley Colleges; George Squire, private study; Edward David Stern, International College and King's College School; Charters James Symonds, private study; Henry John Thomas, Kingswood School, Wesley College, and private study; John Raglan Thomas, Epsom College; Alfred Tillotson, Wesley College, Sheffield; Edmund Peacock Toy, Homerton Training College and private study; Herbert Tucker, Mill Hill School; Abbas Shumsodeen Tyabjee, Pembroke College, Bayswater, and University College School; William Henry Ullmann, City of London School and private tuition; Hugh John Verral, Marlborough College and private study; John Hinks Vinrace, Grammar School, Birmingham; Robert Spencer Wainwright, Mr. Valentine's School, Lee, and private tuition; Edward Seabrook Wallbridge, Mr. Valentine's School, Lee; Edmund Walsh, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; John Lawson Walton,

Merchant Taylors', Liverpool, City of London College, and private study; Cecil Warburton, Old Trafford School, Manchester; Hubert Foveaux Weiss, Moravian School, Neuviwed and Bayewater College School; Clement George Whity, Wellington and Epsom Colleges; Frederick Wilcocks, Sherborne School; Dawson Williams, Pocklington Grammar School and private tuition; Thomas McKinnon Wood, The Brewers' and Mill Hill Schools; Joseph Turton Wright, Heathfield House and Theobald's School.

SECOND DIVISION.—William Arthur Albright, Grove House, Tottenham; John Brett, Wellington and University Colleges and private tuition; Thomas Greener Brooks, Cleveland College, Darlington and Wesley; Gerald Hugh Cullens, St. Patrick's, and St. Mary's, Gayfield; Eustace Julian D'Gruyther, Musmoorie and Amerham Hall Schools; Charles Hale Hocken, Wesleyan College, Richmond; Godfrey Charles Hood, Epsom College and private study; Richard Edward Howchin, Elmfield College, York, and private study; William Kemme Landels, University College School and Regent's Park College; Francis Frederic Perry, Brunswick House, Barnet; Henry Pilkington, King William's College and Queen's, Liverpool; James Ryley, private study; Arthur Robert Wyatt Sedgfield, Rugby School and private study; Clement John René Ulooc, Beaumont and University Colleges and private tuition; Russell Sturgis White, Marlborough College and private tuition.

The following is a list of the candidates who have passed the recent D.Sc. examination:—Branch VI—Electricity: Alexander Muirhead, University College. Branch IX—Animal Physiology: Henry Newell Martin, M.B., Christ's Cambridge and University.

THE INTERNATIONAL PRISON CONGRESS.

This important and interesting gathering of influential men from various countries, has held its sittings in London, day by day, from the 3rd to the 13th instant, when the proceedings terminated. All the nations of Europe (except Portugal) were represented by delegates from their respective Governments or otherwise, also most of the United States of America, together with Mexico, Brazil, Chili, India, Australia, and Japan. The sittings were held in the Middle Temple Hall, the same splendid chamber in which, three hundred years ago, Shakespeare read his "Midsummer Night's Dream," in the presence of Queen Elizabeth and her courtiers, and in which, also, Sir Francis Drake was feasted by the benchers, on his return from his distant voyages in regions until then unknown. Amongst the attenders of the congress may be named the Earl of Carnarvon (President), the Earl of Harrowby, Archbishop Manning, and Sir John Pakington, Bart., of England; Baron von Holzen-dorff and Privy Councillor Steinmann, from Germany; Count Sollohub, from Russia; General Pillsbury, Hon. Joseph Chandler, Rev. Dr. Bellows, and Rev. Dr. Wines, from the United States; M. Loyson and M. Bournat, from France; Baron Mackay and Heer Ploos von Amstel, from Holland; M. Barden and M. Stevens, from Belgium; Count Foresta and M. Beltrani-Scalia, from Italy; Dr. Frei, from Austria; M. Gerle, from Sweden; the Greek Ambassador; Dr. Guillaume, from Switzerland, &c.

The congress was opened by a comprehensive address from the Earl of Carnarvon, which, although containing many excellent suggestions, was also characterised by sundry fallacies, and by arguments for merely penal rather than reformatory criminal treatment—as, for example, in favour of the treadmill and the lash. It was also conspicuously insular in its tone, as referring (in the presence of so many distinguished foreigners) almost exclusively to English requirements and experiences. His lordship, however, spoke well and decidedly on the necessity for an extension of religious and moral agencies in connection with prison discipline. In this direction he was ably followed by Archbishop Manning. Lord Harrowby, Sir Charles Adderley, and other speakers, made some sarcastic, and not wholly undeserved allusions to the absence of Government hospitality to the foreign visitors, and the lack of special State aid to the congress. The Home Secretary (Mr. Bruce, M.P.), twice visited the congress, and took occasion to vindicate the Government from this charge, but it was nevertheless often remarked by attenders that in some other countries such a gathering—of universal importance to humanity—would have elicited a far more liberal recognition by the authorities. It was also noticed that, during the same week, the English Government had pressed a grant of 4,000*l.* in support of Governor Eyre's expenses, already abundantly covered by the private contributions of his partisans. However, the Home Secretary offered the foreign delegates at least free admission to gaols, and also requested Captain Du Cane, the chief director of English convict prisons, to be in attendance to give any information on those establishments. The Prince of Wales also attended an evening gathering of the congress, when most of

the foreign delegates were presented to him, and were received with the greatest courtesy and geniality on his part. But the chief honour and dignity of the congress consisted in its own importance and high character, as being comprised of several hundred delegates from all the chief Governments of the world, and from the principal courts of quarter sessions, prisons, and philanthropic bodies of the United Kingdom.

The interesting and lengthy discussions that took place can be but very briefly noticed here.

A foremost subject of attention was the comparative merit of the cellular or separate, and the congregate system of imprisonment. Of the former system, the great prisons of Louvain, in Belgium, Philadelphia, in America, and Bruchsal, in Germany, are conspicuously successful examples; whilst the latter mode is exemplified in its most objectionable form, in the gang labourers at Chatham, Portsmouth, and Portland convict prisons, and also at Spike Island, near Cork, where the Irish convicts spend most of their time. The merits of separation from all evil companionship, by night and day, alleviated, however (as in Philadelphia especially) by abundant visitation by philanthropic committees and individuals, and by active industry and constant instruction, were earnestly advocated by Mr. Stevens (Inspector-General of Belgian Prisons), Hon. Joseph Chandler, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. William Tallack, Secretary of the Howard Association, London. The congregate or gang system was mainly defended by Sir Walter Crofton and Captain du Cane, principally on economic grounds. But it was shown that prisoners could be also profitably employed in separation, without the disadvantage of exposure to corrupting comrades, who might, after discharge be able to blast for life the character of their previous associates in gaol, through the recognition ensured by congregate labour. The evils of the latter system received a curious and practical exemplification, during the sittings of the Congress, by the newspaper announcement of a formidable rebellion of many hundred prisoners in a large congregate gaol in America. Several murders of prisoners by their comrades were also mentioned as having recently taken place in prisons where association prevails—as, for example, at Spike Island, near Cork. The Congress decided eventually to record no absolute decision as to the merits of the two rival systems; but it was widely felt that the moral weight of the arguments and facts adduced favoured the separation much more than the association of prisoners.

Two lively discussions took place on the subject of flogging criminals. The advocates of the lash were almost exclusively amongst the English members of the Congress, as Captain Du Cane, Major Fulford (governor of Stafford Gaol), and others. Mr. Sheppard, however (for thirty years governor of the West Riding Gaol at Wakefield), stated that he strongly objected to flogging in theory, and entirely disused it in practice, finding other means equally effective. M. Marquardsen (of the German Parliament) informed the Congress that, during the late Franco-Prussian campaign, it was not found necessary to flog a single German soldier. Mr. Aspinall, a Liverpool magistrate, spoke of the pitiable spectacle of the blackened eyes and fractured limbs of helpless women and children injured by brutal men. In these cases he thought flogging was efficacious. Other speakers thought that even in these instances the powers of religion, of solitude, or of fasting, were competent to subdue brutality without the lash.

The treadmill and similar penal inflictions also led to an interesting discussion; and here, again, the Continental and American delegates were almost unanimous in their condemnation of such modes of punishment as useless, absurd, or pernicious. Many English attenders took a different view. But Captain Colville, the governor of Cold-bath-fields Prison for sixteen years (the largest in London), said that he had the largest treadmill in Great Britain in his prison, but that he had never known any man to be the better for the infliction. On the other hand, serious accidents repeatedly occurred. Thus, very lately, a prisoner confined for a slight offence broke both his legs on the treadmill in that prison. Sir John Bowring, as a visiting magistrate, similarly condemned the wheel and crank. On these questions the congress arrived at a conclusion (opposed to the private opinion of Earl Carnarvon), and recorded that, "in the treatment of criminals, all disciplinary punishments that inflict unnecessary pain or humiliation should be abolished."

A very able paper on "Remunerative Prison Labour" was prepared for the congress by Mr. Frederick Hill (for eighteen years inspector of prisons). He advocated profitable industry as the basis of every rightly administered prison system. General Pillsbury, governor of the Albany Prison, New York, expressed the same view, and remarked that for twenty years past he had rendered his large establishment self-supporting, and had not to ask for a single dollar during that period from the ratepayers or the State. He added that he always observed that in those gaols where pecuniary profits were neglected, the moral care of the prisoners was also inferior. Count Sollohub, of Russia, gave a most interesting account of his great industrial prison at Moscow, where he compels the inmates to work diligently at acquiring a trade, and permits them a considerable share of the profits. Large numbers of his former charges are now earning an honest livelihood in towns and villages by trades entirely learnt in the prison; and, out of several thousand discharged from its walls, only ten have

returned. Mr. Tallack also advocated a further increase of profitable prison industry, but urged that, valuable as this object is, it was not to trench on the hours needed for religious and moral instruction. Much more such instruction is needed in British gaols, inasmuch as most prisoners both enter and leave them unable to read or write. The congress finally decided that "to impel prisoners to self-exertion should be the aim of systems of prison discipline, which can never be truly reformatory unless they succeed in gaining the will of the convict. Work, education, and religion are the three great forces on which prison administrators must rely."

There was a unanimous feeling in the congress that the element of hope should be practically fostered in all systems, and in such a manner as to afford facilities for the prisoner to reduce a portion of his sentence by means of sustained good conduct and hard labour. In all the principal American prisons, each inmate can "work off" so many months, or even years, from his sentence. The same principle is a feature of the modes adopted by Macaochie and Crofton. It was further suggested that life-term sentences, and those for very long periods, should be carried out in establishments exclusively appropriated and adapted to prisoners undergoing such terms.

On the general question of sentences, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Barker, and others, urged the adoption of longer punishments for inveterate petty offenders. Mr. Tallack considered that many of the terms of penal servitude now inflicted (as ten, fifteen, or twenty years) are cruelly too long, as often causing the ruin of convict's families and the punishment of the innocent. Several years of separate confinement would be more punitive, more merciful, and more reformatory than many years of congregate labour, as at present in Chatham and other gang establishments.

The subject of reformatories for the young claimed much attention, and many interesting statements were made in relation to them by Miss Carpenter, of Bristol; Mr. Foote, of Ohio; Mr. E. H. Coates, of Philadelphia, and many other speakers. An account was read of the very successful industrial schools at Aberdeen, where the young inmates have daily five hours' work, three hours' instruction, and are sent home each night to their friends. No other schools in Scotland have been so successful in diminishing vagrancy and crime, because they have not availed themselves of the mutually beneficial influence of home intercourse. Many parents have been reformed through the influence of the children in the Aberdeen schools.

One evening of the Congress was devoted to an address on the "Life of John Howard," by the Rev. Dr. Bellows, one of the most eminent of American divines. The address, whilst highly eulogistic of Howard, impartially exposed his frailties—as, for example, his unnecessary severity to his little son by compelling him to walk barefoot on gravel paths as an exercise of simple obedience. Archbishop Manning, who presided at this lecture, took occasion to point out a principal defect of British and some other prisons—viz., the need of greatly increased facilities for the voluntary visitation of prisoners by philanthropic persons, such as the late Mr. Fry and John Howard.

On the whole the Prison Congress has been a successful gathering. The information communicated from so many sources, and the extensive interchange of opinion, both in public and private, by the delegates, will doubtless bear good fruit in future years, and be practically utilised by many legislative bodies and prison managers.

MR. BRIGHT ON POLITICAL TOPICS.

The testimonial from the friends and admirers of the Right Hon. John Bright, M.P., in the Staffordshire Potteries, was presented to him on Thursday at his residence, the One Ash, Rochdale. The deputation bringing the present were introduced to Mr. Bright by Alderman Ashworth, ex-Mayor of Rochdale. The testimonial consists of an elaborately carved cabinet, containing specimens of ceramic art, which had been prepared by Messrs. Minton, A. C. Wedgwood and Sons, and Copeland and Sons, at a cost of 400*l.*

Mr. Bright, in returning thanks, expressed in warm terms his gratitude to the donors, and proceeded, in some remarks which he added, to take a review of political progress during the last thirty years. He congratulated his visitors on the repeal of the Corn Laws—"a strange and wicked monopoly, which was the centre, as it were, of a nest of monopolies scarcely inferior to it in evil." Among these monopolies were dear newspapers, and the right hon. gentleman spoke with satisfaction of the efficiency and excellence of the cheap press. Then, coming to matters of more immediate political interest, he said:—

We have had the Reform Bills of 1832 and of 1867. The bill of 1832 was a great bill, but still it left two nations among the people—a small minority included and a large majority excluded. The bill of 1867, for which we all worked so many years, destroyed the distinction and made the people one nation, having authority in one Parliament. The result was a great one, although the Act is still imperfect, and although, no doubt, before long there must be an increase in the franchise in counties, and there must be a better distribution of seats. Still the bill is powerful enough to reform itself and give whatever changes may hereafter be found necessary. It was a result so great that it immediately enabled Parliament to do what Parliament had been totally incapable of doing in any previous year

—to establish in Ireland for ever complete religious equality, and to bestow upon the vast body of the Irish agricultural peasantry and tenantry some real security for their property. No doubt both measures will work greatly to the advantage of Ireland, and in the issue it will be seen that Parliament never did anything more wisely or with a more just intention than in these great measures of recent sessions. As to questions of Parliamentary reform, we have seen within the last three days how much progress has been made. The House of Lords—which seems to be almost the last refuge of political ignorance and passion—the House of Lords has consented to the establishment of vote by ballot, by which perfect security and independence will be given to every elector. They have, unfortunately, insisted on a reservation which shows how little they know of the signs of the times, which must infallibly create embarrassment, and contest, and party strife. This might have been avoided, for they, of all persons, have the greatest interest in dispensing with it.

Mr. Bright added some observations about the Russian war and the American war of secession. Regarding the former he said:—

I opposed it, as you know, and I was obliged to oppose many of those with whom I generally agreed on other questions. Yet, looking back for fifteen years to the time, I feel that I never was more justified in any political course I have taken than I was on that occasion. I thought the objects of the war were vague and indefinite, and that so far as they were not indefinite they were altogether unattainable—I put aside for the moment the question of Christian principle; but I was absolutely opposed to squandering the treasure and shedding the blood of my countrymen on behalf of a cause which nobody could comprehend, as was clear, because nobody was ever able to explain it. Last year—only last year—we find the Government of this country, a Government, I will undertake to say, as liberal and sagacious and patriotic, whatever may have been their occasional errors, as any Government we ever had—a Government in which Mr. Gladstone is Prime Minister and Lord Granville, who is intimately connected with your district, is a most important member—yet this Government consented, wisely and necessarily, to surrender what I believe was considered the principal result of the war with Russia, a surrender which ought not to have been necessary, because that which had been enforced upon Russia was what no independent and powerful country would ever long submit to.

On the American war, the right hon. gentlemen observed:—

It is one of the unaccountable things in history that people like ourselves—not the great body of the people, but Government, Parliament, and the rich classes, and the most influential members of the press probably, or many of them—should for a moment have taken sides with a rebellion the sole object of which was to perpetuate for ever the slavery of human beings. I did not counsel interference; I said from the first, when the insurrection began, in a few observations which I made in the House of Commons, "Leave it alone. The United States are powerful enough to overcome all difficulties. I believe they will overcome this." My object was to counsel what at one time I called a generous and not an unfriendly neutrality. I called you to witness, and the whole country to witness, whether, if we have pursued the course of generous neutrality, we should not have escaped the embarrassments, negotiations, concessions, and humiliations to which we had been subjected for several years past. I hope, and believe, in all probability, the difficulties which have arisen will be terminated. I believe the conduct of the Government has been everything which people could require in reference to this subject; and I speak from personal knowledge of the most intimate character when I say that no gentlemen in this country are more anxious for all difficulties to be removed, and that the United Kingdom and the United States should live together in perfect amity, than the men who have the responsibility at the present time of administering the Executive Government of the country.

The members of the deputation dined with Mr. and Mrs. Bright after the presentation of the address.

SIR BARTLE FRERE ON CHRISTIANITY AND CIVILISATION.

The seventh of the series of Christian Evidence Society lectures was delivered, under the Bishop of Winchester's presidency, in St. George's Hall on Tuesday, July 9, by Sir Bartle Frere, K.C.B. His subject was, "The Adequacy of Christianity to the Requirements of the Varying Forms of Civilisation." The following report is copied from the *Record*:—

"In treating this subject, Sir Bartle said his object would be to tell what he had seen himself, rather than what he imagined ought to be, or what he thought by any process of reasoning might or would be. He wished to meet the theory which in one form or another was not uncommonly propounded in this country, that Christianity was a Semitic variety of religion, suited to Syria and to a people of Jewish or Arab origin, but little adapted to people of other races and other climates. He wished, on the contrary, to show that Christianity was a religion perfectly adapted to mankind of the most various races, and in every stage of civilisation, from the lowest to the highest. He should have first to define the meaning he intended to attach to some of the words and phrases he should have to use. For instance, the word 'Christianity' itself had a signification widely different as used by different Christians, and still more different as used by writers who could in no sense be classed as Christian writers. They were sometimes told by fashionable writers on these subjects that creeds were only delusions and snares, and that there was not a phrase, even in the shortest of the Christian creeds, to which different meanings were not attached by different branches of the great body of

nominal Christians. But this was true only in a very limited sense; any intelligent stranger who was not himself a Christian, in describing the religious belief of the great body of Christians in England, could hardly sum up the doctrines they usually and generally held more accurately or concisely than was done in the Apostles' Creed. The vast majority of religious Englishmen would not differ very widely as to the interpretation they would place upon the phrases employed in that creed as regarded matters of faith and doctrine. Still less would they differ, in theory at all events, as to what constituted the main points of everyday Christian morality. He therefore took the Apostles' Creed as generally received and interpreted in England, as the symbol of the belief whose adequacy to meet the requirements of all forms of civilisation he hoped to illustrate. The lecturer, having shown that although men might differ as to particular articles of doctrinal belief, of discipline, or even of practical morality, they all regarded the Christian religion as depending on a revelation of some kind, proceeded to comment upon his large Indian experience and to draw conclusions from it, describing in a most interesting way the leading characteristics of Fetish worship. On this point the remarks of the lecturer were very important. He said:—

I have heard it said in this hall, "You must have a Fetish of some sort, and a stock or a stone is a better help to devotion than a priest or his sermon." Let us consider how far this assertion is true—how far it accords with the facts we know. Let us suppose for a moment the possibility of such a thing as a "Christian Fetish." I am using the words of those from whose opinions I entirely differ, simply for the sake of argument. I would ask any candid opponent who chooses to describe the objects of worship which we place before our poorer and more ignorant brethren as "Fetishes," whether he really thinks such "Fetishes" as St. Peter, or St. Paul, or St. John described, or the priests of our own Church, either in the days of Alfred, or Edward I., or Elizabeth, or of our own time, habitually placed before their hearers, have anything in common with such Fetishes as form the objects of worship to the poor people I have been describing? All Christians agree at least in this, that the religion they profess is applicable alike to learned and unlearned men, to the untutored savage and to the civilised Englishman. Hence the Christian Fetish, if such a Fetish there can be, must be alike the Fetish of the poorest and most ignorant peasant or savage, and of Newton, Bacon, or Locke, of Wilberforce, Las Casas, or Henry Martyn. Our enemies themselves being our judges, we may, I think, challenge comparison as regards utility, in promoting the welfare and happiness of mankind, between anything they can describe as a "Fetish" preached from a Christian pulpit and the stocks and stones and malevolent spirits which are the Fetishes of savages. But can such a thing as a "Christian Fetish" exist? or be preached from any Christian pulpit? As I understand a Fetish, it is a being of evil, worshipped with a view to deprecate its wrath, rather than to propitiate its justice or mercy. Such a worship is opposed to the very fundamental notions of Christianity. Whatever nicknames may be given to partial or distorted statements of our doctrines, this, at least, is certain—that nothing like Fetish worship is consistent with the plainest teaching of any single book of the New Testament. There is scarcely a discourse, or a parable of our Lord, or an epistle of His apostles, which does not teach that God is a God of love and mercy, and inculcate love towards all mankind as the foundation of Christian morality. This is the very opposite of Fetish worship, and it is simple misuse of language to talk of a Fetish as a possible object of any real Christian teaching. Contrasting Christianity with the Fetish system Sir Bartle Frere said:—Christianity has now been preached to Fetish-worshipping tribes in every stage of civilisation, from naked savages of the wildest forests to the semi-civilised Fetish worshippers who are mixed up with the settled inhabitants of the cultivated country; and the invariable result has been to show that Christianity has power to prevail against Fetish worship, and that the results of the acceptance of Christianity by the Fetish worshipper are invariably to raise him in the moral and social scale, and to make him a civilised being. I believe there is no part of India in which the power of Christian preaching to attract the attention of Fetish worshippers, to win them from the worship of evil and impure deities to the pure religion of Christ, and to raise them in the scale of humanity, have not been thus abundantly manifested. Most prominently are these results visible among the Shanars and other devil-worshipping races of Southern India; the Kols and Gonds of Central India; the Bhils and Koolies, Mhars, Mangs, and Chumars of Western and Central India. Of all these races it may be truly said that Christianity, as far as its effects have been tried, has proved its possession of the promises of this life as well as of the next. In some parts of the country, as in Tinnevely and Chota Nagpore, the number of actual baptised converts may be reckoned by tens of thousands, and all exhibit a marked improvement in the habits of social life. They are, as a rule, more temperate and chaste, more cleanly, more honest, and more industrious than they were before conversion. In other parts of India, as in the Deccan, though actual conversions have not been so numerous, the effect upon the whole community of outcasts has been marked and general. Scattered as they are, a few in every village of the country, there is no part of the province which has not more or less felt the influence of Christian teaching, and the result is not only a general turning from the gods of terror and uncleanness to the God of love, purity, and truth, but a remarkable social change which may hereafter bear political fruit. It is worthy of remark that these results are not confined to Christianity as taught in India by any single Church or sect of Christians. I have seen them abundantly follow the teaching of missionaries of our own Church, and of the Churches of Rome and Scotland—both Free and Established, of various Nonconformist bodies, and, in the most remarkable degree, of missionaries from various Churches of Germany, Switzerland, and America. I can see comparatively little difference in the power and extent of the result, except what is obviously due to the number and earnestness of Chris-

tian missionaries employed, and the period during which their efforts have been directed to the conversion of Fetish-worshipping races and communities; nor can it be said that the most learned, the wisest, the most accomplished or best endowed of the missionaries are the most successful. On the contrary, the most wonderful results are often effected by simple and unlearned men. From all these things I am led to the conclusion that such efforts owe their success to something which all the preachers of Christianity hold in common—the great, simple doctrines of Christianity which all believe—the plain, broad precepts of Christian morality which all teach.

With regard to the results the lecturer said:—

What, then, generally speaking, may be summed up as the results of Christian teaching when brought to bear on the low form of civilisation exemplified in the classes of which I have been speaking? It is everywhere arising in the social scale—a civilising and humanising influence, tending to make the believer in Christianity a better man and a better subject. I do not speak at this moment of higher influences, but I would ask whether the same evidence of the power and effect of Christianity is not to be found in all we read regarding other parts of Asia, of America, of Africa, and of Polynesia—ay, in all we see around us of the effects of simple, earnest, Christian teaching on London Arab life. Of course we shall hear of the ineffectual efforts of worldly and self-seeking preachers and missionaries, who, we are told, leave their converts no better, and sometimes worse, than they were; but, I ask, are these men preaching Christianity? Can it be said that the life of the Gospel is lived and its teachings taught by men who habitually set at naught the self-denying precepts of the great Author of Christianity? The fault which is so readily found by its adversaries with false teachers and preachers of Christianity, and the denial of good results to their labours, seem to me to prove our case. The most hostile of modern opponents to Christianity cannot for a moment maintain that the worldly, self-seeking doctrine and practice of Christian professors accords with the obvious teaching of our Lord and His Apostles; and the effect of that teaching can only be fairly estimated from the efforts of those who teach in accordance with the great acknowledged principles of Christian faith and practice.

A cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Sir Bartle Frere for his lecture, and to the Bishop of Winchester for presiding.

THE LATE REV. DR. ROE.

We have just received intelligence of the death of the Rev. Charles H. Roe, D.D., which took place at Belvidere, Illinois, on Thursday, June 20th. He was well known to many of our readers, and had a warm place in their affections; and his death, though not premature, will make them pensive and sad. Dr. Roe was a student at Horton College, then under the care of the Rev. Dr. Steadman, whose eldest daughter he married. He first settled in 1827 as pastor of the Baptist Church in Middleton Teesdale. He was soon called to become the secretary of the Baptist Home Missionary Society, whose interests he promoted and whose influence he widely extended. In connection with this work he visited all parts of the kingdom. His labours were eminently evangelistic, and wherever he went a revival of religion followed. Many members of different churches, and not a few now in the ministry or diaconate, owe their first impulses in the Divine life to these visits. These are among the precious memories that will ripen fully only in heaven. Feeling it his duty to pay more direct attention to his numerous family than his wandering life allowed, he settled at Birmingham in 1842. With the warmth of his whole heart, by unwearied labour and unstinting generosity he originated and fostered into strength the church in Heneage-street, now in number of members and scholars occupying only the second place among the Baptist churches in that large town. Finding it difficult to provide for his ten children, he decided to emigrate to America in 1851. He was speedily settled as pastor of the church in Belvidere, where he continued, alike useful and beloved, till the outbreak of the civil war. An ardent Abolitionist, he joined the Northern army as chaplain, having one son a cavalry officer and another as an attendant upon himself. He was present in several engagements, and was finally taken prisoner. At the close of the civil war he paid a short visit to this country. After his return to America he became officially connected with the University of Chicago, which had conferred upon him the degree of D.D., an honour well deserved, and which in America has a definite meaning and use. Last year he returned to reside at Belvidere. His health was declining, and he felt that his end was drawing near. For this he calmly waited, only fearing lest he should become a helpless burden to others. At the beginning of the week in which he died, the annual meetings of the Rock River Association were held in Belvidere. His presence was hailed with grateful congratulations. He attended the meetings with deep interest from day to day. He had enjoyed the services of the Thursday morning, but in the afternoon was taken suddenly ill, and soon expired. At his funeral the presence and services of many ministers of different denominations, a procession of nearly a mile in length, and a vast concourse of spectators, testified to the high regard in which he was held.

The *Dublin Gazette* of Friday contains a notice under the Peace Preservation Act, giving a first warning to the *Tuam News* and *Western Advertiser*, on account of an article published on Friday, the 28th of June, headed, "Here it is Again," and containing incitements to the commission of felony.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1872.

SUMMARY.

THE Parliamentary session is drawing towards a close. Three weeks of hard and hurried work however remain, during which some bills of merit, and others full of demerit, will pass more quickly than is usual. On Monday Mr. Gladstone stated how the Government proposed to lighten the ship to facilitate her entrance into port. Seven measures, none of them of great magnitude, have been thrown overboard. Others we dare say will follow. Those which will be persevered with are the Licensing Bill, read a second time last Thursday, and too innocuous to be vigorously opposed by the public-house interest; the Mines Bill, which has now passed the Commons, its protective clauses having been much weakened by the influence of the masters; and the Public Health Bill, pared down to a measure for creating adequate local authorities to give effect to the law as it stands. Mr. Disraeli, in accordance with his "sewage" programme, having come to the aid of Mr. Stansfeld, this measure may be regarded as safe. Amongst the bills which are evidently doomed to ultimate extinction, those for repressing corrupt practices at elections, and for regulating merchant shipping, are conspicuous.

The conflict over the Ballot Bill is at an end, and on Monday next it will probably become the law of the land. We have described elsewhere the final shape given to this important measure. On Friday the Commons considered the Lords' amendments, and though some final alterations were made, no division took place—the provision for limiting the operation of the Act to 1880 being accepted, with only a vigorous and effective protest from Mr. Vernon Harcourt

against the supercilious language and unconstitutional course of the Upper House. Their lordships on Monday accepted the last touches of the Commons.

The ultimate fate of the Scotch Education Bill is not so certain. Encouraged by a declaration from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Richmond insisted on, and carried, an addition to the preamble urging the desirability of continuing religious instruction; but not as Mr. Gordon proposed, making it compulsory. This was carried by 53 to 32. It was also decided on the motion of his grace that religious instruction should be given at the beginning or the end of the school hours, as in the English Act. Other amendments were rejected. But the Duke succeeded in reinstating the proposal for creating a purely Scotch Board—in other words, a department which will have the expenditure of half a million of money without the control of Parliament. Eighty-one peers to seventy carried this dangerous amendment, which no Government could accept. When the report was received last night the Earl of Rosebery, in a very outspoken speech, moved an amendment forbidding the teaching of any "formulary which is distinctive of any particular denominations," in accordance with the precedent of the English Act. His lordship contended that there was a religious difficulty in Scotland; quoted the United Presbyterians as in favour of combined secular and separate religious education; declared that under the bill as it stood the Established Church would uniformly secure a majority of representatives on the school board in the country; and predicted as the result that there would be a reaction which would put the Kirk in a minority and oust religion altogether from the schools. Such a speech is very rarely heard in the House of Lords. In replying to the noble earl, the Duke of Argyll expressed his veneration for the Westminster Assembly; questioned the capacity of such an assembly as the House of Lords to deal with the Shorter Catechism; but conceded that if it should ever be found impossible to give religious instruction to children of different religious communions together, he would be prepared to consider the alternative of purely secular education under such conditions and restrictions as Parliament might devise. The amendment was, of course, withdrawn, and the question now is whether the Government will be able to persuade the Lords to abandon their Board scheme, if not the alteration in the preamble. That the bill will eventually pass cannot be doubted.

About the time of the prorogation of the British Parliament the French Assembly will take a long holiday. The Government have got their Army Organisation Bill and Loan Bill passed, and are nearly at the end of their financial proposals. One project after another for filling up the deficit is rejected by the Assembly at M. Thiers' suggestion, and the tax on raw materials, which will be as unproductive as injurious to commerce, is revived by the President, and will clearly be forced on the reluctant acceptance of the Assembly. The truth is that M. Thiers' calculations have all been wrong, but he will not consent to retrenchment, and M. Germain tells him that he need only provide some four millions extra instead of eight. Probably even the sinking fund will hereafter be used to cover the President's reckless finance. However, the Assembly is now his obedient servant; and at the least sign of effective resistance, he has but to warn the deputies against shaking public credit when a loan of a hundred and forty millions is about to be launched, and they must be dumb. Before the session closes M. Thiers is to make an explanatory speech as to the "Pact of Bordeaux," and the Monarchists are naturally anxious on the subject, and greatly fear the little man who has so many irons in the fire, and can beat them all. When they become restive the President shakes hands with the Left, and just now we find the advanced Liberals giving him a cordial support, even in respect to the most obnoxious taxes, and M. Gambetta praising the President as a model of patriotism and good faith.

The Court of Arbitration is now in regular session at Geneva. Its proceedings are private, and the sittings likely to last some weeks. Our papers are beginning to speculate on the damages we may have to pay for the Alabama escapade, and assess them at somewhere about a quarter of a million. It is the merest conjecture. Whatever it be, we shall accept the award of the Arbitrators with equanimity. The payment of a good round sum, and even a decision against us in the San Juan boundary question by the Emperor William—which is not unlikely—would be but a moderate sacrifice if all difficulties with our American cousins should be finally removed.

ARMY RECONSTRUCTION.

To most of our readers the simple heading of this article will probably suggest disagreeable reflections. It would seem as if all Administrations, let their professions be what they may, speedily subside into instruments, not to say tools, of the great executive services of the country. We have had navy reconstructions over and over again. It would not be too much to say that, within the last fifteen years, the money spent in that most costly experiment has reached at least fifty millions sterling. We are now pursuing the same course with regard to the army. We are reorganising it. We are dealing with it as though we were a military nation, in imitation of the great military monarchies of the continent. We are in no danger of invasion. We are not, just at present, subject to the wretched folly of panic. But our Government seem to think it a wise policy to disregard the traditional maxims of the Liberal party, and to give economy to the winds, in order to constitute a theoretically perfect defence against a danger which, even in their judgment, does not really exist, and to cover the whole country with a network of military organisation, capable of answering the double purpose of meeting foes from abroad, or of suppressing every kind of turbulence at home.

After midnight on Monday last Mr. Cardwell submitted to the House of Commons a bill for providing expenses proposed to be incurred in localising the military forces of the country. It is not our intention to describe the scheme of army reconstruction which this measure is intended to support. Technically speaking, it may be capable of triumphant defence, although we observe that, as usual, military men differ widely as to its effectiveness for its purpose. Perhaps, however, our readers will best understand the purport of the bill when we tell them that it authorises the raising of a sum of three and a half millions sterling, with a view to provide sixty-six military centres with thorough barrack accommodation for Her Majesty's forces at home. We have no hesitation whatever in stating our conviction that a Tory Government would never have ventured upon propounding such a scheme to the country; or, if it had, would never have obtained from Parliament the necessary means and authority for carrying it into effect. It is unnecessary to the sufficient defence of the kingdom from external aggression. It is costly, and, we may even add, extravagant, in a pecuniary point of view. And in conjunction with other provisions that exist for sheltering soldiers from the consequences of their own vices, it will constitute one of the most powerful demoralising agencies to which the population of the United Kingdom can be subjected.

Respecting the necessity of the measure, so far as we are able to recollect, scarcely a word has been uttered by the War Secretary, or by any of his supporters. As a means of extinguishing the liability to panics, we can hardly think that it is relied upon by a single member of the Cabinet. What are these panics but the outcries of military men for larger expenditure, echoed by a portion of the metropolitan press? What amount added to the sums already expended upon the defensive services would guarantee the country against a periodical recurrence of these factitious panics? Mr. Gladstone ought not to allow his policy to be shaped in order to subserve the exigencies of his colleagues in the Cabinet. We have abundant proof in his own speeches to the country, that he is not deluded by the reasons put forward by the Services for a larger amount of public money in their support. He knows well enough that the appetite which the War Secretary is conscientiously intent upon appeasing, will grow by what it feeds on. It is simply too bad to hold office on Liberal professions, and yet give countenance, first to one colleague and then to another, in sacrificing those professions to the clamour of their political opponents. The Liberal party is being betrayed at all points by the men whom it trustingly exalted to power. In no one respect, however, has the Premier allowed himself to be so completely beguiled out of his own better judgment, than in respect of the extravagant expenditure demanded of Parliament for warlike purposes. The scheme presented in justification of the bill, the second reading of which was proposed about midnight on Monday, and, we are happy to say, was postponed for further consideration, can only be placed on a par with the fortification craze of the late Lord Palmerston. There is, however, this difference between the two. That of the noble lord was the more expensive, while this of the present Secretary of War will assuredly turn out to be the more mischievous. That simply

absorbed an immense amount of public money—this may be expected to operate largely in corrupting and degrading the moral character of our population.

Upwards of three score military centres distributed over the United Kingdom, with some regard at least to the proportional amount of the surrounding population, can hardly be maintained, in connection with the immunities sanctioned by the Mutiny Act, and with the new system which has been extended to garrison towns for the purpose of depriving vice of its worst evils, without almost inevitably diffusing throughout the body of society looser and lower ideas of social morality than have hitherto prevailed. It is a marvel to us that such men as sustain the most conspicuous offices in the Cabinet, are able to shut their eyes to the consequences of what they are doing. It is hardly matter for additional surprise that, having consented to a policy so utterly incapable of justification to the reason, they are seeking to force it through the House of Commons without giving to the House a fair opportunity of discussing its merits and tendencies. All things taken into consideration, we fear we must characterise this scheme of army reconstruction, and especially the manner in which it is being pushed forward at the end of the session, and at the small hours of the morning, as the most culpable departure from their own professions which Her Majesty's Ministers have exhibited during their tenure of office.

WHAT SHALL WE GAIN BY THE BALLOT BILL?

THE Parliamentary and Municipal Elections Bill has received its final stamp. In about a week it will receive the Royal assent, and will come into immediate operation. We do not expect it to bring about a political millennium, but all the reflection we can give to the subject convinces us that the Act will be the means of altering very much for the better the character of our elections, both Parliamentary and municipal. Notwithstanding the great value attaching to a seat in Parliament, and the increasing tendency of wealthy *parvenus* to spend money lavishly to secure that honour, the uncertainty and danger of using corrupt means under the new Act will be enormously increased. It will not be a safe investment to spend for an object which cannot be in any way assured. Electioneering agents, especially at the first starting of the new machinery, will be baffled, and the customary appliances of unscrupulous candidates and those who serve them must be seriously restricted.

To speak more specifically, the bill at the outset abolishes "the rough" in our electioneering procedure. With the public nominations, will also disappear the hired bullies and mobs, whose sweet voices and muscular action is so often relied on to decide the show of hands. We shall get rid of the saturnalia of the nomination day, when the appetite for drink and bribes receives its first development. There are few who will not admit this to be a change for the better. It is not good for the dregs of society to be brought to the front under the auspices of respectability, even for a day; it is something more than a farce that candidates who come forward to serve their country should perforce pass through an ordeal of brickbats and rotten eggs, violence and insult. Though it is in our view a pity that the simple process of nomination used at the school-board elections was not imported into the bill now awaiting Her Majesty's assent, the formula prescribed will, after all, be a great improvement on the present system.

Now let us see what will be the prospect of bribery and corruption under the new system. No one will deny that there are some valid objections to secret voting, but what are its solid compensations? The first great fact is that throughout the day of election, the state of the poll will be absolutely unknown. Is not this an enormous safeguard against bribery? The state of the poll hourly was all important information to the electioneering agent. What is that astute gentleman to do towards the close of the poll, when he has nothing to guide him but vague conjecture? Heretofore the screw has been put on, and money and beer have flowed freely between two and four. Henceforward the agent will be in the dark as to the position of his patron, who may towards the close be in a majority, or need a hundred more votes, for all that he knows. Thus at the critical moment, those who are ready to use undue influences will be paralysed, and the vocation of "men in the moon" will cease. The multiplication of polling places will moreover enhance the uncertainty of the issue.

The above considerations will at once suggest the subordinate importance of further safe-

guards. The Optional Ballot of the Lords having been eliminated, the danger that secrecy will be violated lies in the provisions for securing a scrutiny and assisting the illiterate voter, and the vagueness of the penalty for exposing a voting paper. To make a scrutiny possible the record of votes will be preserved, but will be opened only before a judge, and that for the sole purpose of tracing challenged votes before the electoral court. No honest elector—and it cannot be too widely known and proclaimed—has therefore any reason to fear that his secret will be violated by any but himself, though of course the threat of divulging it may be, and perhaps will be, freely used. It is of course a disadvantage that that interesting person, the illiterate elector, should after putting in a written declaration that he can neither read nor write, have his vote recorded by deputy—that is, by the returning officer in the presence of the agents of the candidates. This will, however, be but a limited field in which the election agent can operate corruptly. He will have far more scope in respect to the exhibition of voting-papers in the booth by dishonest electors of small constituencies. Such cases of collusion, however, can hardly be numerous, though the liability to an indictment for a misdemeanour for such an act "wilfully" done is a very vague penalty.

If the bill should be less effectual against intimidation, it is rather because of surrounding social influences than the absence of legislative safeguards. In small constituencies no enactment will do more than mitigate coercion. But landlords and employer cannot make sure that their undue influence will be effectual. The voter can baffle them if he likes. The secrecy of the vote will be a boon to those who desire independence, especially to Nonconformist electors in counties who dare not at present vote openly against their landlords and customers.

The ultimate compromise in reference to polling "stations"—a word which has somewhat delayed the passing of the bill—is not unsatisfactory. The Lords have finally assented to the use of schoolrooms aided by public money, on condition that the Government will introduce a provision into the Education Code, to the effect that the number of meetings during which the managers are deprived of the use of the schoolroom may be counted as if they had been actually held. This is only reasonable compensation. But the arrangement sanctions for the first time the principle that such expenses are a public charge. Thus the polling-places will be greatly increased without involving the candidates in any extra cost, and Mr. Fawcett has a good precedent to demand that all legal expenses should be defrayed at the public cost.

There is now no good reason why the election of members of Parliament should not be conducted almost as quietly as that of school boards. Secret voting, and the necessary uncertainty of the result, will prevent public excitement, at all events till the result is declared. It is estimated that a million or more is expended every general election. So lavish an outlay—mostly for demoralising purposes—will hardly be made in future. We may at least hope to get a nearer approach to purity of election. Not only will voters be able to act with comparative freedom, but the morality of the country will gain, under the ægis of the Ballot Bill. With new methods of procedure, old habits of riot and debauchery may be expected to disappear. The House of Lords has accepted, though with the worst possible grace, a measure which promises to effect a most wholesome revolution in our electoral contests, and to facilitate a truer expression of the national will than has heretofore been possible. This great reform may be perfected by the suggestions of experience; but in our belief, though the Act is to be temporary, it will never be repealed.

THE COAL FAMINE.

THE extraordinary rise in the price of coals is as disagreeable a phenomenon as a typhoon or an earthquake. Even if Mr. Mill's apprehensions as to the early exhaustion of the English coal-fields are not being realised, we are yet likely to endure for some time to come much of the inconvenience which our posterity appear destined to experience in an aggravated degree. To many people an extravagant price for coal is practically equivalent to a permanent diminution of the sources of supply. They suffer—at least in pockets—almost as much as if we were on the verge of that yet distant period when every coal-pit will be like an extinct crater, and when every miner will be compelled to earn his livelihood above instead of beneath the earth's surface. It is some conso-

lation to householders that they have been overtaken by this calamity at a season of the year when they are best able to endure it. It gives them time to prepare for the black winter when—as there is too much reason to believe—coal will not be less than two guineas a ton. They should lose no time in putting their houses in order, and especially in considering how best to economise the use of fuel, and to make a little go a long way. For years past the public have been admonished against the waste of coal which goes on in private dwellings. They have been implored to remember that they owe a duty to future generations which requires that they should not needlessly squander the resources which Providence has entrusted to their keeping. Perhaps, now that their self-interest is more directly involved in the matter, they will act upon this good advice and use the black diamonds with frugality.

Several causes are alleged for the unprecedented price of coal. Chief among these is the enormous improvement which has taken place in the iron trade during the last three years. It is estimated that this trade absorbs from five to six millions of tons per annum; besides which the large number of new blast furnaces, and of new rolling mills which have been recently constructed in the North of England, have created a demand for coal considerably out of proportion to the supply. The coal-mining industry is not equal to the sudden strain to which it has been subjected. A colliery population cannot immediately be increased; and although agricultural labourers are gradually moving into the northern districts, it takes a good deal of training to convert Hodge into a working pitman. The men work shorter hours than they did formerly; not long ago they secured a rise of twenty per cent.; and the productive power of the miner has diminished forty per cent. under these new conditions. These economic facts partially account for the rise in prices; but the primary cause must be looked over in the unexampled development of the iron trade. Let there only be a falling off in the demand for coal at Middlesbrough and Cleveland, and in the blast furnaces of Cumberland and Lancashire, and we shall not long have to complain of the extravagant price of coal. Any sensible diminution of orders in the great iron districts of the country would be quickly followed by intelligence calculated to gladden every household in the United Kingdom.

Another cause of the high price of coal is the rapid increase of the export trade. Leaving out continental Europe altogether, we supply between one and two millions of tons per annum to the markets of India, China, the islands of the Indian Ocean, and South America. The effect of the present alarming state of things must be to call attention to the coal-fields which notoriously exist in India, and more particularly in South Africa. Specimens of coal from the latter country are now in London, and are declared to be of excellent quality—thus verifying the opinion which Sir Roderick Murchison long ago expressed. It is manifest that if coal could be successfully worked in a country situated as South Africa is, the latter would enjoy a monopoly of all the markets in the Eastern and the American hemispheres which are nearer to the Cape or Natal than they are to England; especially as, in addition to a vast saving of distance, labour is much cheaper and, at the same time, sufficiently abundant. It is singular that attention has not been previously called to this subject in a practical manner. Capitalists have neglected the coal-fields of Africa to the great injury both of the countries in which they exist, and of the United Kingdom. It is happily not yet too late to repair the mischief, and to make these remote regions yield their mineral wealth. It is to be feared that before the old prices are restored, the people of this country will experience much suffering and loss. Many things besides coal cannot fail to increase in value, and persons of narrow means will feel the shoe pinch severely. Neither railways nor steamships can be worked so economically as heretofore; and therefore we must look for an increase of passenger rates and freights, and a corresponding rise in the price of many articles which are obtained from a distance. Generally speaking, however, the greatest amount of loss will be sustained by the manufacturing class. Upon this part of the subject the *Economist* says:—"Considering the number and variety of manufactures whose raw material is affected directly or indirectly by the price of coal, we cannot but view the whole trade of the country as engaged in the difficult task of raising the prices of what they sell in proportion to their necessities, with diminishing success as the final consumer is approached. The causes of loss in such cases are moreover cumulative. To protect himself each

trader must not only charge to his next customer the increased price he has himself paid, but he must allow for the increased expense of his business in consequence of the additional capital required. Altogether, the rise in the price of coal, with its accompaniment of dear iron, must be a potent cause in reducing profits all over the country. It follows from this explanation that, during the next few months, we must look for the obverse side of that position of national prosperity which we have long been in the habit of contemplating with so much satisfaction. It is a time for thoughtful and saving people to set an example of prudence to their neighbours. We need not feel alarm, but nevertheless we ought to exercise all the virtues of watchfulness and economy.

HOW IT STRIKES A STRANGER.

LONDON, July 16, 1872.

Another count out has been successful since I last wrote, and nobody, I imagine, either in the House or out of it, could make any objection. The Contagious Diseases Bill was the first order of the day. It was not the Government measure, but one promoted by a private person. It was notorious that there was no chance of legislation on the subject this session, and debate was useless. Debate is often not useless when there is no chance of legislation; but on this particular occasion it would have been absolutely useless. Everything that can be said on this eminently disagreeable subject has been said, and the mind of the country is parted into two hostile camps between whom there can now be no negotiations, but merely war and a trial of strength. Talking is an absurdity and an unnecessary nuisance. Therefore it was noticed by sober people with extreme satisfaction that when the hour arrived at which this bill was to be introduced to the House, there were scarcely a dozen members present, and only half a dozen more or so hanging about the door. At this crisis Mr. Collins appeared, or, more properly, Tom Collins—for by this more familiar name he is always known in the House. For him, I cannot help saying that I am fast beginning to entertain some sort of respect. He is noisy, obstreperous, and perhaps not a philosopher; but there is a certain joviality and plain-spokenness about him which is attractive. He has also a healthy dislike to bore. Seeing how matters stood, he immediately declared for a count. Some of his friends attempted to dissuade him, but he would not listen to them, and went round to the back of the Speaker's chair, the Speaker not having taken his seat. The moment he arrived Mr. Collins "took notice," and the Speaker counted. There were only thirty-four members present, and the House was adjourned. In the absence of its author, Mr. Gilpin had consented to take charge of the bill, and even he, I believe, was exceedingly glad to go home. In fact, the only persons who seemed to be really disappointed were some ladies who were whipping up members in the lobby. I dare say that many of my readers will hardly consider it possible that ladies could be found to undertake such an office, but there is no mistake about it. Ladies were there, and argued the matter with members with great freedom. If Serjeant-at-Arms had permitted the gallery to be open during the discussion, they would have listened to it with great eagerness.

Mr. Stanhope, the new Conservative member for the Southern Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire, took his seat amidst great applause. He contested the division in 1865 and again in 1868, so that it may reasonably be supposed that his anxiety to obtain admission to Parliament must have been considerable. For the expense of a contested election in the West Riding is by no means a trifle, in fact it has become almost a proverb. In 1807, when Mr. Wilberforce and Lord Milton were elected by a majority of about 1,100 over Mr. Lascelles, the Tory candidate, the poll was kept open for fifteen days, and the struggle cost the three candidates half a million of money. Mr. Wilberforce was indemnified by public subscription, the necessary amount being raised almost immediately. Probably the total sum spent upon electioneering in the county by the Howards and Fitzwilliams during the last fifty years would be as near a million as anything else. Mr. Stanhope looked as though what he had obtained was the dearest object of his desires and even of his passions. His face beamed with ecstasy, and when he sat down by the side of Mr. Disraeli, and was actually introduced to that august person, the Speaker, the Strangers' Gallery, the Reporters'

Gallery, and the whole of Great Britain representatively looking on—Oh, then! It is as well to be historically exact in the record of such a great event, and the statement which has appeared in some of the newspapers to the effect that Mr. Stanhope accidentally took the seat next to Mr. Disraeli is therefore contradicted. Mr. Disraeli did really request the honour of Mr. Stanhope's acquaintance, and smiled graciously when Mr. Stanhope approached him. As I watched the scene, I could not help marvelling at the susceptibility of man to illusion. Mr. Stanhope has parted with what to most of us would be a fortune to get into the House, and what is the net result? He is permitted freedom of access to what is certainly a comfortable club to a man who has a taste for gossip, but in return for that privilege he will be obliged to work long hours during the hottest part of the year, and will have his digestion impaired and his temper soured by being kept out of bed till early in the morning. Once now and then he will be flattered by the insertion, in very small type, in the newspapers, of a few remarks he may happen to make to which nobody will listen. Probably, while he is in the act of making them, the gentlemen on the bench below him will rise demonstratively and move towards the door, or a kind friend will take notice that forty members are not present, and he will be snuffed out ignominiously. Yet for this he has sacrificed what would fill his gallery with noble pictures, or enable him to taste the still sweeter pleasure of placing many needy people beyond the fear of starvation and want. Of course, it is of no use to try and prove to a man that his idols whom he worships with such awe are mere baked clay. The power of self-enchancement, happily, is born with us, and continues with us till we die, or we should be the most miserable of creatures. The baby with its bit of firewood and a red rag rolled round it, which it calls its darling pet, and plays with unweariedly all day long, is the undeveloped Stanhope.

The introduction of the Licensing Bill was a very tame affair. In the first place, nobody cared much about it, and in the second place, the bill had previously been debated in the Lords, and all that could be said for and against it was pretty well known. Nevertheless, there was a decent gathering of members who devote themselves to the liquor question. Of these Sir Wilfrid Lawson was the foremost, eager and intrusive as might be expected from a man who was horsed on his hobby. Sir Robert Anstruther, having a bill of his own on the subject, was also particularly noticeable, and so was Mr. Locke, who strenuously opposes the anti-liquor agitation, and indeed is as unlike the traditional teetotaler as any member in the House. In the gallery there was a curious mixture. The lion lay down with the lamb—that is to say, the Red Lion with the white teetotal lamb. There were gentlemen with rosy, vigorous faces and coloured neckties, side by side with pale gentlemen in white neckties. The peace was happily preserved between them, but they looked very much as if they would have liked to fly at one another's throats. Mr. Bruce was very apologetic, and almost cowed in his demeanour. He explained that his bill was but a little one, nothing like the ambitious measure of last year. There was no consolidation in it, no alteration of any magnitude in the existing laws; nothing, in short, that could give offence to any living soul. It was, in short, a most harmless, inoffensive bill, which members need hardly take the trouble to consider. Some conversation followed of no particular definiteness, excepting a remark by old Mr. Henley, whose opinion on these matters is as much to be respected, perhaps, as that of any man in the House. He watched the debate intently for some time, and at last gave it as his opinion that the bill, and all other cognate bills, had better be burnt; that we ought to wait till quieter times, when our desires might be more clearly ascertainable than they are now; and that then we should pass a comprehensive measure embodying all previous legislation on the same subject.

The opposition to Mr. Stansfeld's Health Bill was very determined, and it is doubtful whether it will become law this session. He, too, was insinuatingly submissive and apologetic, speaking only for about ten minutes or so, when he asked the House to go into committee, as if he wished to conceal from the House the importance of the measure. But the opposition to the bill broke out in unexpected places all over the House, and by some members, Colonel Barttelot, for example, it was denounced with something like frenzy. Mr. Stansfeld appears confident that the bill will pass, but it certainly will not, unless the date now named

for the termination of the session is considerably extended.

The business proper of the House on Monday was the Naval Estimates, but before these could be reached we had to traverse a vast, wide-spreading sea of miscellaneous talk on almost every conceivable Parliamentary topic. The beginning of the mischief was a motion by Mr. Vernon Harcourt for the adjournment of the House, made for the purpose of obtaining from the Government some information about the Criminal Procedure Act. After Mr. Vernon Harcourt had been satisfied, Mr. Newdegate seized the opportunity presented to him for the purpose of solemnly inveighing against the unconstitutional encroachment of the Government upon the time of the House. From this we turned by a rapid transition to sewage; Sir Robert Peel, who introduced the subject, observing with perfect accuracy, and amidst much laughter, that the motion for the adjournment having once been made, he believed he was in order in talking about anything which came into his head. To Sir Robert succeeded Mr. Mundella, also upon sewage, and Sir Robert and he were about to get up a great debate between them, when the Speaker interposed, induced Mr. Vernon Harcourt to withdraw the motion for the adjournment, and the House resumed the usual questions. Presently, however, somebody wanted to know what was to be the course of business for the rest of the session, and Mr. Gladstone thereupon made the usual sessional announcement of the bills which it was intended to sacrifice. The House listened with great eagerness, and when he said that the Contagious Diseases Bill was to go there was much applause, which surely would have been much greater if a promise could have been given of a bill forbidding any distribution of papers or pamphlets about contagious diseases during the recess. At present there is every prospect of renewed agitation. Justice Keogh, intercolonial tariffs, the exportation of bones, the clerks in the Inland Revenue Department, and several other matters, were brought under the notice of the House before the Speaker was able to leave the chair so that the House might proceed with the Estimates. When these were called, the House was instantly depleted of all but about a dozen members, who despatched the orders of the day.

C.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—At the weekly meeting of the London School Board on Wednesday, Mr. Locratt stated that in the division of Finsbury, since the notices had been issued stating the intention of the board to put the compulsory clauses into force, the attendance of children had greatly increased. During the last three months 5,000 more children had attended elementary schools than before that period. Some discussion took place on a report from the Statistical Committee respecting the establishment of a school in Miller's-lane, Lambeth, in regard to which the Rev. Canon Gregory had made the objection that the proposed school would interfere with a school in which he was interested in the neighbourhood. The committee, after reconsidering the matter, stated that no facts had been elicited which should shake their confidence in the figures presented by the board to the Education Department, and upon which the sanction of the Department to the school had been obtained. The report was adopted. Mr. M'Gregor made a report on behalf of the School Management Committee in regard to a statement made in the *Guardian* that religious education was only given in a school under the board for ten minutes each day. Mr. M'Gregor stated that the person who made this statement had overlooked the fact that, in addition to the ten minutes at the opening of the school, a further time was given in after-part of the day, and, therefore, that the statement was inaccurate and misleading.

THE FIRST SCHOOL BOARD APPLICATION FROM SHROPSHIRE.—At a public meeting at Wellington (Salop), on Friday, it was unanimously resolved to elect a board to carry out the provisions of the new Elementary Education Act. The meeting was attended by ministers of all denominations, including the vicar and rural dean (the Rev. B. Banning), who presided, and also the Rev. T. Ragg, who very warmly supported the application for a board. This is the first application for a school board from the important mining and agricultural county of Shropshire.

LORD SHAFTESBURY, THE BIBLE, AND EDUCATION.—On Tuesday night, the 9th inst., the Earl of Shaftesbury presided at a crowded meeting held in the Birmingham Town Hall, in support of "Bible teaching in State-aided Schools." His lordship moved the first resolution, which was, "That this meeting, convinced that education to be worth the name must be religious, and feeling assured that a very large number of the children attending elementary schools will receive no religious teaching or training except such as is given in the ordinary course of school teaching, hereby protest against

any attempt to prohibit or discourage by legal enactment the teaching of Scripture in our national schools." The noble earl said he should advocate rebellion if parents were compelled to send their children to infidel schools; and if need be he would go to gaol in resisting such a law. He regretted the attitude taken by the younger men among the Nonconformists, whose hot blood had somewhat impaired their brains; but he was glad to know that the Samuels and Moseses of Nonconformists were were almost to a maintenance of God's Words within schools. (Cheers.) The greatest evil of the present day was the fascinating and cheap juvenile literature which was presented in an insidious and attractive form, and that evil could alone be counteracted by the teaching of God's Word to the young. Dr. Rigg, of London (Wesleyan) seconded the resolution, which was carried. The Rev. Canon Miller, of Greenwich, and other speakers, subsequently addressed the meeting.

CANON GREGORY AND THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—Canon Gregory is sorely vexed in spirit at the way in which the Education Act is being worked in London, and, as a similar state of things may exist in other places, the question he raises is undoubtedly deserving of attention. He finds that there are various districts in the metropolis where the school accommodation is far in excess of the actual attendances at school, and yet the school board goes on providing "additional accommodation," as though the position of affairs was exactly reversed. The rev. canon is indignant at such "wasteful management," but when we come to investigate the matter we cannot honestly profess to be surprised at it. The "existing accommodation," or that which existed before the perverse action taken by the board, consisted chiefly of Church of England and Roman Catholic schools, and instead of first filling these with scholars it has thought fit to hire 113 rooms, "chiefly connected with Dissenting chapels," as the canon pathetically puts it. It must not, however, be supposed that the board has been engaged in playing into the hands of "the sects" in this business. What Canon Gregory scolds it for, is not that it feeds denominational schools, but that it will persist in establishing schools under its own supervision. It is of course natural that the worthy canon should prefer to see the board devoting its energies to filling the schools with which he and his friends are connected, but he can hardly expect the public to share in the feeling. School boards generally have shown so little disposition to establish schools of their own, that when they do resort to such a step it may be regarded as tolerably certain that their discretion has not been at fault.—*Manchester Examiner.*

UNITED KINGDOM ALLIANCE.

A very crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held on Wednesday night at Exeter Hall in support of the Permissive Prohibitory Liquor Bill. The chair was taken by Sir Thomas Chambers, Q.C., M.P.; and among others there were present Archbishop Manning, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., Dr. Brewer, M.P., Mr. M. R. Dalway, M.P.; the Rev. Dr. Cuyler (New York), Dr. Garvey, Mr. B. Whitworth, J.P., Mr. S. Pope (Recorder of Bolton), Messrs. A. M. Sullivan, Michael Young, and J. H. Raper. The chairman said he had great satisfaction in presiding over a meeting for the purpose of forwarding a cause which had already been successful, and was likely to be still triumphant. It was a cause which had an especial claim upon the public support and sympathy, as the aim and end of it was the benefiting of the state of the people and the popular interests. One by one prejudices had been swept away, and the eyes of the people had been opened, first one eye and then the other, to their own interests; and now the leaders and friends of this great movement were able to say that, in spite of all obstacles, they had wrought a great work, and were in full sail towards the final conclusion of the great cause. Archbishop Manning, in moving the first resolution, said that the bill was a just, safe, and constitutional one, and in perfect accordance with the best interests of the people. The principle embodied in it was practically the same as that contained in an enactment passed in the reign of Edward VI. He contended that there was no restriction in the liberty of the subject, and that there was no fresh prohibition; that it was simply transferring the power of licensing from hands that were unable to wield it effectually, and placing it in those that were. The working men, he believed, were in favour of the bill; and he could say that the promoters of the movement were representing the views of the working men. The resolution was as follows:—

That the principle of permissive prohibition, as applied to the traffic in intoxicating liquors, is eminently adapted to the circumstances of our times, and ought to receive the earnest and immediate support of all parties in the State who are sincerely desirous of using every lawful means for the removal and prevention of intemperance.

Dr. Garvey, in seconding it, excited a loud expression of feeling from the body of the hall by quoting the remark of the Bishop of Peterborough that he would sooner see England drunken but free than sober and in slavery. Sir Wilfrid Lawson, who was received with prolonged and deafening cheers, moved the second resolution, and spoke at some length, directing his attention principally to the political aspects of the question. It was then seconded by Mr. Pope, and carried unanimously, that—

This meeting urges upon the electors of the United Kingdom

the importance of at once using their political power for the overthrow of the liquor traffic.

It was proposed by Mr. M. Young, and seconded by Dr. Cuyler, that a petition, embodying the substance of the resolutions, be adopted and signed by the chairman for presentation to the House of Commons. During the meeting Sir Thomas Chambers was compelled to leave owing to previous engagements, and his place was filled by Mr. Andrew Dunn, to whom a cordial vote of thanks was accorded at the conclusion of the proceedings.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

Under the auspices of the Howard Association a conference on the abolition of capital punishment was held at Armfield's South-place Hotel, Finsbury-pavement, on Thursday evening. Baron Von Holzendorff occupied the chair, and amongst those present were many of the ladies and gentlemen who have been taking part in the Prison Congress.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, thanked the Howard Association for what it had done in the cause of abolition of the death penalty, and he regretted that the Prison Congress had decided not to discuss the question, which was an international one. As to Germany, the estimate of human life had increased in consequence of the tremendous losses which his country recently suffered on the battle-field. The abolition of capital punishment was only a question of time. (Cheers.)

Mr. W. TALLACK, Secretary of the Howard Association, explained that the gathering was a conference and not a public meeting. He was happy to report progress in the question in all countries. Capital punishment had been virtually abolished for several years in many of the German States; it was absolutely abolished in several of the United States; it had been totally abolished in Holland; virtually abolished in Belgium, abolished in Portugal, and to a large extent in Russia, except for a certain description of treasonable crimes; while in Sweden there had been but one execution for many years. It might be said also that capital punishment was in principle abolished in England, for last year, out of thirteen prisoners condemned to death, only four were executed. Out of seven capital sentences passed during the last assizes but one was carried out; and the remarkable fact attending the disuse of capital punishment, in whatever country it had been abolished, was that the abolition had been attended with a decrease of crime. (Cheers.)

The first resolution was:—

On the part of the advocates of the abolition of capital punishment in the United Kingdom, a cordial welcome is offered to the distinguished foreigners now present, who in their respective countries have laboured to promote that legislative, social, and Christian reform.

This was moved by Sir JOHN BOWRING, who said that civilisation might be measured by the amount of reverence paid to human life. When society took upon itself to destroy this element, derived directly from Divinity, it assumed a daring and untenable position. Sir John gave some details of the terrible disregard of human life amongst the Chinese, one of his anecdotes being that of a man who boasted of having cut off 100,000 heads. Capital punishment, he maintained, was an opprobrium to our country, a shame to humanity, and a discredit to our legislature. (Cheers.)

Mr. GILPIN, M.P., seconded the motion, describing the difficulty a member had in bringing forward a non-political question in the House of Commons, and expressing his hope that the discussion in Parliament next Wednesday week would be productive of great benefit.

The resolution was carried, and the complimentary motion was acknowledged by Baron von Siedivitz on behalf of the foreign gentlemen, many of whom had to hurry off to a dinner given to them by Earl Granville.

Count SOLLOHUB (Russia) moved—

This meeting is of opinion that the protection of society from murder and violence is best secured by the law itself manifesting a practical reverence for the sacredness of human life, and by efforts to bring even the criminal to repentance, whilst effectually restraining him from further crime.

The count argued that it was sufficient to be a Christian in order to hate the penalty of death. He traced a connection between capital punishment and the more wholesale destruction of life on the battle-field. The penal code of Russia he described as a gentle one, the greatest penalty extending over a period of twenty years; but he admitted that this gentleness had been accompanied with certain disorder, to which the Russian Government were giving special attention. He was rather in favour of a capital sentence held in *terrorem*, but not carried out. He believed that he was the only one present who had saluted the tomb of Howard.

M. GUILLAUME (Switzerland) seconded the motion. In four of the cantons in his country the death punishment was abolished by law, and practically in all of them. Neuchâtel took the lead in 1854. The diminution of serious crime had been most pronounced, but there had been an increase of misdemeanour, because the Legislature now meddled with crimes which were never noticed before, and because of an improved police.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Other resolutions were passed. One affirmed that the results of capital punishment generally and in various countries have been an increased certainty of the conviction of criminals, and no accompanying increase of murder. Another declared that the prison discipline of several nations, especially Belgium and Germany, proves that sen-

tences of imprisonment of very long terms, or even life, in lieu of capital punishment, can be and are carried out in such a manner as to secure at the same time the physical health, mental vigour, profitable industry, and moral reformation of the prisoners. Another resolved that the abolition of capital punishment ought to be accompanied by the establishment of prisons specially adapted and appropriated to prisoners confined for life or long periods.

The discussion on these motions was carried on by Professor LEONE LEVI, who argued that the penalty of death is against the interests of justice; by the Rev. Dr. BELLINGS (of New York), who said that, although once in favour of capital punishment as necessary to the dignity of the State, a course of study on crime convinced him once and for ever that capital punishment was unnecessary, and did not contribute to the safety of society, and that in America the prevalence of crime was due to the fact that capital punishment stood on the statute-book, and juries, in consequence, refused to convict, so that criminals escaped unwhipped of justice; by Mrs. A. LEWIS; by M. VAN BEMELE (Holland), who dwelt upon the objections his countrymen had to capital punishment; by Baron VON SIEDIVITZ, who objected to capital punishment being held in *terrorem* over a prisoner, if it was not intended to be carried out.

The Rev. G. M. MURPHY moved, and Mr. E. STURGE, seconded, the following, which was carried:—

That this meeting of representatives from European and American nations, assembled to confer on the subject of capital punishment, desires to express its sorrow that in the noble land of France there have been of late, and are still continuing, so many inflictions of death by the executive. This meeting ventures respectfully to invite the remembrance of the French Government to the circumstance that some other great nations have found it practicable and safe to punish and repress even treasonable crimes by other measures than judicial death; as, for example, the United States after the late civil war. The great American Republic proved on that occasion that mercy is perfectly compatible with the preservation of public security; and that, indeed, dignity and clemency, true grandeur and moderation, are intimately allied.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the chairman at the close of the meeting.

THE HOMES FOR LITTLE BOYS.

On Saturday, in spite of the rain, a large party of ladies and gentlemen left Ludgate-hill, and were rapidly conveyed to Farningham, in Kent, to participate in the summer *fête* to be held there that day; to assist in laying the foundation-stone of a new school, the cost of which was to be provided, or rather had been provided, by the town of Bradford, in Yorkshire; and to watch the children as they were examined under the superintendence of the Bishop of Rochester, and receive their prizes from the hands of the Prince Imperial of France. It may be as well to state that the object of the place is to feed, clothe, educate, and train to industrial work, little boys under ten years of age, who are either homeless or destitute, whether orphans or not, or are in danger of falling into crime. The home was at first commenced in Tottenham in 1864, and began only with fourteen boys; the number soon rose to ninety, the utmost that could then be accommodated. New buildings were erected at Farningham, where there are now 300 boys, each in a Home—that is, a house of thirty, under the care of a man and wife, who act the part of father and mother. In each house there is family prayer night and morning. The workshops are distinct from the houses, and in them the boys are taught very useful arts by means of which they are expected to earn their living in after life. The care of the committee for the youthful inmates of these Homes extends long past the period of the boys leaving Home. In the first year they spend creditably in service away, they receive a medal. In the second and third years they are rewarded with five shillings in cash; for the fourth year they have seven shillings and sixpence; and in the fifth year as much as ten shillings. Thus it is manifest that the Prince Imperial had a hard time of it on Saturday, as in addition to these good-service rewards, he had to distribute the prizes to the successful candidates; and, aided as he was by Mr. Charles, his task was no light one and when it was announced that one wealthy gentleman had sent in a prize for every boy, people began to fear as to the luncheon which was to follow. The prince, nevertheless, discharged the duties of his office with grace and cheerfulness, and won no little applause afterwards, when he returned thanks, in a short speech, which was well delivered in spite of his slight foreign accent.

But the first event of the day was the examination of the children, chiefly in geography, arithmetic, and Scripture—with which examination the Bishop of Rochester declared himself highly satisfied. Then came the great feature of the meeting, the laying of the foundation of the Bradford School by Lord Frederick Cavendish, M.P., who stated that he was there in the absence of the senior member, Mr. Forster, who had been unable to come in consequence of the state of public business. Also his lordship expressed his regret at the absence of Mr. Miall, and thus the lot fell to him to perform the task, which he did with much *éclat*, declaring that the stone was well and truly laid, and expressing his hope that it might be worthy of the school of which they had that day seen the result. Mr. Willans, the treasurer, had previously explained how it was that they were about to lay the foundation-stone of a new building. He had been down to Bradford with Mr. Charles, as a deputation on

behalf of the school; they had been warmly received there, and, in reply to what could be done for them, they had answered, "We don't want more homes, but we do want a new schoolroom, as the present was inconvenient."

After the stone-laying ceremony was over, there was singing by the children, who seemed excellent musicians, and then the company adjourned to the tent, where the luncheon had been laid for a large number of visitors, and where everything passed off very satisfactorily, considering that the waiters were boys from the homes, and the waitresses girls from the Hampstead Industrial Schools. The luncheon was presided over by Lord F. Cavendish, who in giving "The Royal Family" spoke of the Prince and Princess of Wales as the patrons of the institution, and as having recently paid it a visit and expressed their satisfaction with it. In proposing the health of the Prince Imperial, his lordship observed that it would be enough for him to say that the friendly feeling which had so long existed between France and England was mainly due to His Imperial Highness's illustrious father. The speeches which followed, if short, were of unusual excellence. Lord F. Cavendish said of his friends at Bradford that their heads were as hard as their hearts were warm, and that they would not have supported such an institution had it not been of unusual excellence. Mr. Alfred Illingworth, M.P., was unusually happy in singing the praises of Bradford, and made a good hit when, in referring to the fact that one of the boys had come there from Dover, where he was with his regiment, to receive his prize—that only one of them was a soldier, and that he hoped none of the boys would be brought up to such a decaying trade, as it was construction and not destruction that society required in the coming age. Mr. R. Hanbury and Mr. Willans also spoke as to the financial needs of the institution—the latter pleading eloquently and earnestly for the clearing of the mortgage of 3,000*l.* and for the increase of additional subscriptions to the amount of the 2,000*l.* a-year required. At a later period also Lord F. Cavendish spoke well of the present difficulties in connection with all our London charities and asylum, as to the mode of electing inmates; and though Mr. Charles, on behalf of the committee, declared that they would shrink from the responsibility of selecting fitting candidates, it is clear his lordship's speech in this matter was not without weight. The principal toasts were as follow: "the Queen"; "Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other members of the royal family," proposed by the chairman; "His Royal Highness the Prince Imperial of France," proposed by the chairman, responded to by His Royal Highness the Prince; "Prosperity for the Home for Little Boys," proposed by the chairman, responded to by Mr. W. H. Willans, the treasurer; "the Chairman," proposed by Mr. Willans; "Prosperity to the Town of Bradford," proposed by R. Hanbury, Esq., responded to by Mr. A. Illingworth and Mr. Alderman Dawson; the "Bishops, Clergy, and the Ministers," proposed by James Spicer, Esq., responded to by the Bishop of Rochester; "Our Visitors," proposed by Mr. Charles, responded to by Mr. Burns, of Nova Scotia. To clear off the building fund, 1,250*l.* were announced, the donors being Robert Hanbury, Esq., Samuel Morley, Esq., W. Willans, Esq., G. Moore, Esq., &c. And in connection with the *fête*, as donations and annual subscriptions, 400*l.* were announced. The collection over, "The Ladies" were given as a general hint for the few who had remained to the last to be off to witness the gymnastic sports, which were sadly interfered with, however, by the wet weather. Then came a scramble for a cup of tea, a pleasant ride back to town, and a feeling of self-satisfaction at having assisted at the *fête* of a charity which has already done much good, and which, we believe, is destined in the time to come to do much more. We congratulate the good men of Bradford on coming forward so liberally to the help of the little boys at Farningham.

SPAIN AND SLAVERY IN CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

The following petition was recently presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Thomas Hughes:—To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society—Sheweth,

That it is a matter of deep concern to your memorialists to learn that no effectual steps have been taken by the Government of Spain for the liberation of that large number of individuals held in slavery in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, who, under treaties between Great Britain and Spain, are entitled to immediate and unconditional freedom. That it was in reference to this population that Lord Palmerston, when Foreign Minister, made use of the following language in a despatch to the Government of Spain:—

Let the Spanish Government take effectual measures for restoring all the colonial British subjects who have been kidnapped, and who are detained in slavery in Cuba, in violation of the law of nations. Let the laws of Spain be rigidly enforced against the numerous slave-traders in Cuba, whose occupation is as well and as publicly known as that of any man engaged in legitimate commerce. And, finally, let the Spanish Government take steps for restoring to freedom all those negroes who have been introduced into Cuba as slaves in violation of the laws of Spain, and who, therefore, not being the legal property of any man, are *ipso facto* free by the law of the country itself.

That the same opinion on the right of Great Britain to claim the liberty of these people has been held by Ministers of various parties who have from time to time held the seals of the Foreign Office. That the law

passed by the Cortes in 1870, unjust and altogether insufficient as it was, is not acted upon in Cuba, but is a dead letter there. That the people of Spain have demanded the abolition of slavery from one end of the country to the other, and that no measure would be more popular with the Spanish people than the entire abolition of slavery. That the Free Cuban party in Cuba have emancipated their slaves to the number of at least a hundred thousand. That many of these liberated slaves have been re-enslaved by the Spanish Government, which holds them in slavery in violation of the express provision of the Constitution of 1868, and is working them as slaves for its own profit. That they have viewed with deep concern and apprehension the disastrous effects which would result to the interests of humanity and civilisation from the further continuance of the sanguinary conflict in Cuba, and still more from the success of the Spanish, or pro-slavery, party there, which, according to the statements of British officials in Cuba, would certainly be followed by attempts to revive the African slave-trade. That the people of Porto Rico are anxious for the abolition of slavery in their island; and in an address to His Majesty King Amadeus they have assured him that, to use their own words, it is their most cherished hope "to get rid of the abominable and evil institution of slavery." That the delegates from Porto Rico presented a plan for the immediate and entire abolition of slavery to the Cortes in Madrid in November last. That no facilities were rendered by the Spanish Government for its discussion in Cortes. That many Ministers of the new Cabinet just formed in Madrid have expressed themselves on various occasions as favourable to the abolition of slavery.

For all these reasons the undersigned entreat your honourable House to take such measure as may induce Her Majesty's Ministers to use their moral influence with the Spanish Cabinet without delay in favour of the entire abolition of slavery in the dependencies of Spain.

And your petitioners will ever pray.
On behalf of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

JOSEPH COOPER, }
EDMUND STURGE, } Hon. Secs.
ROBERT ALSOP, }
BENJAMIN MILLARD, Secretary.

STORMS AND FLOODS.

A great storm of rain fell over Lancashire and parts of Yorkshire during Friday and Saturday. From about one o'clock on Saturday morning until after two o'clock in the afternoon, that is, for more than thirteen hours, the rain fell in Manchester so heavily that occasionally (especially during the night) it might have been imagined that a water-spout had broken over the city. The storm also prevailed in the valleys along which the rivers Irwell and Medlock flow before they reach Manchester. The greatest alarm was felt about the Irwell, and crowds of people, notwithstanding the rain, thronged the places where the rushing mass of water could be watched. It rose, but not so rapidly as on the Friday night. A peculiarly painful accident occurred at the City Cemetery, which has for its southern boundary the river Medlock. The flood water in the Medlock at half-past twelve o'clock on Saturday refused to follow the channel, inclining to the south, and overflowed its banks, running in almost a straight line to the weir. At this time the river was about twelve feet above its usual level. The weir backed the water upon a portion of the cemetery, where there was a grave space for 250 graves, some sixty of which had been used for an average of five interments in each. The descending water and the returned water from the weir eddied here in such a manner as to destroy these graves. The coffins were lifted, broken by being dashed against the weir, and the released bodies, in all stages of decay, were carried down the stream. Some of them floated down through Manchester into the Irwell and thence into the Mersey—as many as nineteen being counted by one observer at Knot Mill. Others floated to Ancoats Bridge, Pinmill Brow, where they were stayed among the debris which could not pass, and taken to the Fairfield-street police-station. Others were secured in the Cemetery. Others, again, floated into Philip's Park and into adjoining cellars and gardens. In the garden of one beerhouse in Bradford four naked bodies floated, and that of a child was discovered while pumping the water out of a cellar. Shells were speedily procured from the Manchester Workhouse, carbolic acid was freely used as a disinfectant, and every arrangement was made for the early reinterment of the bodies. At Medlock Vale fields and cottage gardens were inundated. Ash Bridge was washed down, and a great part deposited in the middle of a field opposite Medlock Vale House. Another bridge, almost entire, lay near the same place on the river bank, having been washed down near Daisy Nook. Several lodges belonging to the Medlock Vale Works overflowed their banks. At Messrs. Taylor and Boyd's calico printworks, Clayton Bridge, the river rose twelve feet above its ordinary level. Beyond the arches of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway at Clayton Bridge the railway bank on one side slopes towards the river; on the other side it is higher and slopes towards the line. From this slope several tons of earth were forced on to the line, and for three hours the traffic was carried on with one line of rails only. No serious damage, however, was done. At Bardsley the water flooded a fine factory, and has done great damage. At the brewery of Messrs. Shaw and Bentley the loss will be enormous. Entering the stream at Park Bridge is a small rivulet, which flows from Lees, and at the latter place a young man, named Michael Garside, twenty-six years of

age, was thrown into the stream by the bank on which he was standing giving way. His body was carried along the Medlock for several miles, and when last seen it was near Waterhouse, Ashton, six or seven miles from the scene of the accident. The trains on the railway between Guide Bridge and Oldham were in some places compelled to drive through water two or three feet deep. Communication between Ashton and Manchester was entirely stopped for some hours.

At Barnsley a girl was drowned and much damage done to property. At Blackburn and Darwin 200 cottages were flooded and the fires extinguished in several mills. At Edgworth, near Bolton, the mill of Messrs. Cook and Charnley was almost wrecked.

At Bury the damage is estimated at 10,000*l.* The cornfields in the neighbourhood of Chorley were inundated, and the Addington Railway station was flooded to the depth of two feet. Similar reports come from Oldham, Middleton, Stockport, Wigan, Dewsbury, East Yorkshire, Eccles, Grimsby, and Lees. At Doncaster, the river Don, which partly overflowed its banks on Thursday and Friday, had on Saturday morning risen to a great height, and all adjacent meadow lands were submerged for many miles in extent. In many parts of the district the water had reached the standing crops, and the damage in this respect, already reported, is very serious. The storm also appears to have been felt in Norfolk and Essex.

The *Leeds Mercury* of yesterday says:—"It is no exaggeration to say that since the first storms in the middle of June, hundreds of lives have been lost, and property to the value of hundreds of thousands has been destroyed. We reported yesterday the loss of several lives in all parts of Yorkshire and Lancashire, the large destruction of stock and property of various kinds in the low-lying districts of nearly all the large towns in these counties, and the still heavier destruction of crops in the country districts, and we continue the subject in its special bearing on the hay harvest to-day. A week ago we had to speak of one of the heaviest grass crops ever known, and a commencement of a favourable ingathering. To-day we have to speak of the comparative destruction of that crop wherever it was not gathered during the few fine days which preceded Saturday week. Where the crop has been cut it has either been washed away with the floods, or so discoloured and deteriorated in quality as to be almost worthless for fodder. Where it had not been cut the state of things in many cases is not much better. In some instances, the floods have deposited such large quantities of silt and gravel in the meadows that the crop can with difficulty be cut; and in others the constant wet has rotted the grass just above the ground. We may hope and do hope that things are not so bad as they seem, but this much is certain, that the last month has proved most disastrous alike in town and country in the North, and has placed many farmers in a most difficult position for the winter.

A meeting of the general committee of the Manchester Nonconformist Association is called for this (Wednesday) morning, at their rooms in Brown-street, to consider the desirableness of recommending the Nonconformist churches and congregations to take measures for the relief of the distress caused by the late floods.

THE LIBERAL CLUBS OF BRADFORD.—The movement to establish clubs for the operatives in Bradford and the neighbourhood has progressed satisfactorily. There are now twenty of these clubs opened in the borough, averaging from 250 to 100 members each, and several clubs have been established in the outlying villages. They are all conducted on temperance principles. The plan adopted is to open a central club in the wards, with smaller branches, and attached to them are reading, smoking, discussion, news, and draught or bagatelle and billiard rooms. At Manningham a couple of houses have been purchased for the use of the central club, and there is a library of 850 volumes. A club-house is being built at Gillington, and at Lister Hills, Bowling, Great and Little Horton, and in the East Ward, there are flourishing clubs. Bagatelle and billiards are favourite games with the members, and some of the clubs are either supplied with these aids to amusement or are about to be fitted up with them. Considering that it is summer-time, the increase that is going on in the number of members has pleasantly surprised the promoters. It was at first thought that this movement to bring together the Liberal party in clubs would be evanescent, but the result has shown that the operatives are determined to organise and to support their leaders in thoroughly welding together the Liberals of Bradford and the neighbourhood for united action whenever an emergency may arise. At election times the club-houses will be used as committee-rooms, preventing the necessity of resorting to public-houses. A great political educational work is going on in the clubs, which it is expected will produce good fruit in the future. In addition to the minor agencies, there is the Central Liberal Club, which has a handsome suite of rooms in the Town Hall-buildings, Market-street, Bradford, and which is conducted on similar principles to the London clubs. The Conservatives have not been behind-hand in this kind of propagandism, and they have many clubs in the borough and the neighbourhood. They are working energetically to uphold the temporary success which they have achieved; but the Liberals feel that in the future Bradford will show that it is thoroughly earnest and powerful in the cause of Liberalism.—*Leeds Mercury*.

Literature.

MR. FREEMAN'S HISTORIC LECTURES.*

It is not so easy, as might at first sight appear, for an able man to achieve real and permanent success as an historical lecturer. A very limited and superficial acquaintance with the facts of his subject, if combined with a power of word-painting, may indeed suffice for the production of a popular lecture, but though it may have a certain use, it will do little more than revive the impression of familiar facts, and pass an hour or two with pleasure to the hearer, and a temporary *éclat* to the speaker. On the other hand, the mere scholar may give a learned dissertation, intensely interesting and instructive to the few capable of appreciating it, but heard by the many with that weariness which the most elaborate efforts of our Dryasdusts are sure to excite. A lecturer should have style as well as matter; but if he is to use his instrument for the best ends, as a means of stimulating inquiry by supplying such a broad and attractive view of his subject as may awaken in his hearers the desire to fill up the outline, he must lay in ample stores of knowledge and tact in the use of them. Mr. Freeman has these qualifications in a very high degree. Of his historic scholarship it is hardly necessary that we should speak. It is at once wide and varied, and remarkably accurate. To him the history of England is only a branch of a subject, and, feeling that it is impossible to understand the part properly without an acquaintance with the whole, he has therefore carefully studied this special theme in all its relations to the general history of the race. It is not too much to say that he has, as the result of this collation of facts drawn from many sources, wrought a complete revolution in our ideas of many of our institutions, thrown light upon much that was obscure, corrected many mistakes, and in general given us clearer and more consistent views of our national development. With great diligence in the accumulation of facts, he shows equal skill in grouping and interpreting them. He is no mere speculative philosopher, but an anxious and thoughtful observer, who builds up his theories on facts. He is singularly accurate in details, partly, no doubt, from the exactitude of his mental habits, but partly also because he feels that it is only thus he can lay a solid basis for his reasonings. Yet with all this he is never dry; while he is often picturesque and eloquent, and never fails to clothe his teaching with a warmth and beauty which give it additional interest.

The "Growth of the English Constitution" is a subject which must have peculiar difficulties for a lecturer, especially when he has a limited time in which to treat it, and has to make it interesting to an audience gathered out of such busy manufacturing towns as Bradford and Leeds. But Mr. Freeman has overcome them, and not only so, but he has produced the best compendium of information on the subject to be found in our language. Its attractiveness, as a piece of pleasant reading, is its least merit. It condenses within a very small space the fruit of long and painstaking research; not only giving us results, but even some slight glimpses of the process by which they have been reached; and points out to the student the way in which he may learn how this England has risen to her high standard of liberty and greatness. Mr. Freeman knows how to abridge without omitting anything that is essential. He has wonderful power of seizing on the salient points of an epoch or a revolution and presenting them to us in their true light; he can be popular without becoming superficial; and, on the other hand, he can bring out the results of much ripe and diligent scholarship without anything that savours of pedantry, or is likely to weary his readers. There is no book of its class which could be put into the hands of a thoughtful student from which he would be likely to derive more stimulus and advantage. If, indeed, he had derived his previous knowledge of English history from our ordinary school books, or even from some classic histories, he will find himself at first in a new world, and will have to cast aside many cherished ideas. But inquiry will certainly satisfy him that Mr. Freeman has truth on his side, and he will not only learn many new facts, but he will gain what is of even more importance, fresh light on the principles of historic inquiry. For nothing is more marked here than the scientific spirit which pervades these lectures. History

* *The Growth of the English Constitution.* By E. A. FREEMAN, D.C.L. (London: Macmillan and Co.)
The Unity of History. The "Rede" Lecture. By E. A. FREEMAN, D.C.L. (London: Macmillan and Co.)

is not, in Mr. Freeman's view, a mere store of isolated events; it is a record of progress, and is, therefore, to be studied in the true scientific method, and this alone is sufficient to give his lectures a distinctive value.

We shall not attempt to examine these lectures minutely; partly because no general sketch of their contents could do them adequate justice, and partly because we hope our readers will get them for themselves. They are not to be epitomised, or to be hurried through and despatched at a single reading, but to be studied. Those on the "English Constitution" should be mastered by every intelligent Englishman, if for no other reason, because, as the author says, "The earliest institutions of England, and of other Teutonic lands, are not mere matters of curious speculation, but matters closely connected with our present political being. I wish to show (he adds) that, in many things, our earliest institutions come more nearly home to us, and that they have more in common with our present political state, than the institutions of intermediate ages which at first sight seem to have much more in common with our own." The most marked characteristic in all our history has been our regard to precedent, and it is the glory of our Liberalism that it has always been able to appeal to the past in vindication of the reforms it has advocated, so that instead of turning aside from the good old ways, as its enemies accuse it of doing, it has in reality been returning to them. Very nobly and truthfully Mr. Freeman says in his preface, "As far at least as our race is concerned, freedom is everywhere older than bondage; we may add that toleration is older than intolerance." But then, to prove this, it is necessary to go back to the beginning; and our author does this when he introduces us, in his opening sentences, to those gatherings of the Swiss cantons, in which are preserved to this day the political institutions of our forefathers, and in which the original of our own may be found. In a very clear way he traces the development of our constitution, exposing at the same time the way in which it has been perverted by the lawyers. "It is perfectly true that the history of England must be studied in the Statute Book, which begins at no point later than the 'Dooms of Ethelbert.'"

The "Rede Lecture" was delivered to the University of Cambridge, and is remarkable alike for breadth of view, richness of learning, and felicity of treatment.

DR. GLADSTONE'S LIFE OF FARADAY.*

There is no fear that Dr. Gladstone will lack grateful and appreciative readers of this biographical sketch of Michael Faraday. It will reach many who have not had the opportunity of studying the "Life and Letters" by Dr. Bence Jones, while it will probably convey, even to those who have read that and other memoirs of the great and good philosopher, some new or nearer impression of the rare beauty and delicacy of his character. As a pupil and friend of Faraday, Dr. Gladstone is careful to portray the man no less than the philosopher, and to exhibit to the world of non-scientific readers those aspects of his life and character which tell more of motive and aim than of achievement. In the words of M. Dumas, the French physicist, "the simplicity of his heart, his candour, his ardent love of the truth, his fellow interest in all the successes, and ingenuous admiration of all the discoveries of others; his natural modesty in regard to what he himself discovered; his noble soul—independent and bold—all these combined gave an incomparable charm to the features of the illustrious physicist." This book serves pre-eminently to confirm the truthfulness of M. Dumas's representation.

Dr. Gladstone gives us some very interesting sketches of the philosopher, both in the laboratory and in other scenes. The following is the summary of an ordinary day's occupation:

"After eight hours' sleep he rises in time to breakfast at eight o'clock, goes round the institution to see that all is in order, and descends into the laboratory, puts on a large white apron full of holes, and is busy among his pieces of apparatus. The faithful Anderson, an old soldier, who always did exactly what he was told and nothing more, is waiting upon him; and as thought flashes after thought through his eager, perhaps impatient, brain, he twists his wires into new shapes, and rearranges his magnets and batteries. Then some conclusion is arrived at which lights up his face with a gleam of satisfaction, but the next minute a doubt comes across that expressive brow—may the results not be due to something else yet imperfectly conceived?—and a new experiment must be devised to answer that. In the meantime, one of his little pieces has been left in his charge. She sits as quiet as a mouse with her

* *Michael Faraday.* By J. H. GLADSTONE, Ph.D., F.R.S. (Macmillan and Co.)

needlework; but now and then he gives her a nod, or a kind word, and throwing a little piece of potassium on to a basin of water for her amusement, he shows her the metal bursting into purple flame, floating about in fiery eddies, and the crack of the fused globe of potash at the end. Presently there is handed to him the card of some foreign savant, who makes his pilgrimage to the famous institution and its presiding genius; he puts down his last result on a slate, comes upstairs, and, disregarding the interruption, chats with his visitor with all cordiality and openness. Then to work again till dinner-time, at half-past two. In the afternoon he retires to his study, with its plain furniture and the india-rubber tree in the window, and writes a letter full of affection to some friend, after which he goes to the council meeting of one of the learned bodies. Then back again to the laboratory, but as evening approaches he goes upstairs to his wife and niece, and then there is a game at bagatelle or acting charades; and afterwards he will read aloud from Shakespeare or Macaulay till it is time for supper and the simple family worship, which now is not liable to the interruptions that generally prevent it in the morning.

Here is a companion picture—the day is Sunday.

"In the morning he and his family group find their way down to the plain little meeting-house in Paul's-alley, Red-cross-street, since pulled down to make way for the Metropolitan Railway. The day's proceedings commence with a prayer-meeting, during which the worshippers gradually drop in and go to their accustomed seats, Faraday taking his place on the platform devoted to the elders; then the more public service begins; one of a metrical but not rhyming version of the Psalms is sung to a quaint old tune, the Lord's prayer and another psalm follow; he rises and reads in a slow reverent manner the words of one of the Evangelists, with a most profound and intelligent appreciation of their meaning; or he offers an extempore prayer, expressing perfect trust and submission to God's will, with deep humility and confession of sin. It may be his turn to preach. On two sides of a card he has previously sketched out his sermon with the illustrative texts, but the congregation does not see the card, only a little Bible in his hand, the pages of which he turns quickly over, as, fresh from an earnest heart, there flows a discourse full of devout thought, clothed largely in the language of the Scripture. After a loud simultaneous 'Amen' has closed the service, the Church members withdraw to their common meal, the feast of charity; and in the afternoon there is another service ending by invariable custom with the Lord's supper. The family group do not reach home till half-past five, then there is a quiet evening, part of which is spent by Faraday at his desk, and they retire to rest at an early hour."

Faraday's religion, thus simple and singular in its outward form was predominant in his life. Unlike the modern man of science, who can accept no conclusions, whether in the domain of science or religion, which are not derived from the observation of a particular class of facts, that is, from facts which they can verify by sensuous experiment, he erred somewhat in an opposite direction, but his error, if error it was, was not a source of injury to himself because he had no need to pursue those methods for the establishment and maintenance of his faith which are, nevertheless, most necessary to others. He was one of those to whom our Lord's words apply, "Blessed are they who have not seen, and yet have believed." He claimed "an absolute distinction between religious and ordinary belief." "I shall be reproached," he says, "with the weakness of refusing to apply those mental operations which I think good in respect of high things to the very highest. I am content to bear the reproach." Yet, he adds, "even in earthly matters I believe that the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his His eternal power and Godhead; and I have never seen anything incompatible between those things of man which can be known by the spirit of man which is within him, and those higher things concerning his future which he cannot know by that spirit." Dr. Gladstone very sensibly remarks upon this position: "Surely there is the same opportunity and the same necessity for careful judgment, and for resistance to prejudice or preference, when we are weighing the credentials of anything that may come before us purporting to be a revelation from above; surely, too, if we have satisfied ourselves that we possess such a revelation, we must seek for the same clearness of ideas, and must exercise the same patience and labour of thought, if we would understand it aright," a consideration which, if not excluded, seems to be ignored by the worthy philosopher.

But after all Faraday could not err practically, and as to himself, so long as he continued to act so promptly and faithfully upon the principles which he derived from revealed truth. With all his wealth of intellect, he never appreciated it, or the results which its exercise wrought out, beyond their proper value. With all his capacity for work, and with a monopoly of the most valuable secrets of nature, he deliberately elected the pursuit of scientific research for its own sake, and more than once refused to be compensated for services which would have been cheaply purchased by almost any sum he might have named. In his earlier years he made a considerable sum by commercial

analyses, and he might have continued to turn his discoveries to still more profitable account had he cared for this kind of reward for his labours; but, says his biographer, "His own mental force might be turned either to the acquisition of a fortune or to the following up of those great discoveries; it would not do both; which should he relinquish? The choice was deliberately made; Nature revealed to him more and more of her secrets; but his professional gains sank in 1832 to 155*l.* 9*s.* (from more than 1,000*l.*), and during no subsequent year did they amount even to that." A life so pure at its source, and so unsullied in its progress, could not fail to commend to all who beheld it the grace of which it savoured, and we feel that more fitting words could not be spoken than those of Professor Tyndall, with which we close this notice: "Here, surely, is a strong man. I love strength, but let me not forget the example of its union with modesty, tenderness, and sweetness, in the character of Faraday."

THE BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW.*

The *British Quarterly Review* for July stands at the head of all the quarterlies, both in the selection of subjects and the ability with which they are treated. We have, first, an extremely original article on William of Occam, and his connection with the Reformation. An amusing paper on "Wit and Humour" follows, in which we have another, and on the whole successful, attempt to define the difference between the two. The jokes are good, but might have been better. The article on Coal treats the whole subject geologically, historically, and socially. The next paper, on Marco Polo, is scarcely equal to its subject, and contrasts very unfavourably with Sir Henry Rawlinson's recent article; but it is the only inferior paper in the number. An "Ecclesiastical Tournament in Edinburgh," discusses, with special knowledge, the recent lectures of Dean Stanley, and the reply of Dr. Rainy. Dr. Rainy is described as by far the most powerful of that generation of Churchmen in Scotland which has succeeded Dr. Chalmers, and then follows the following masterly portrait of this remarkable man, whose name, we are sorry to say, was, until recently, unknown in England. We quote it, for Dr. Rainy is clearly destined to play a conspicuous, if not the leading, part in the coming disestablishment agitation:—

The son of the venerable Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in the University of Glasgow, he had already shown the highest promise—in the well-known Speculative Society of Edinburgh he was by far the first man among some who are now the leaders of the Scotch bar—when the majority of the Church of Scotland were called on in 1848 to redeem their pledge of the previous year, and throw up their endowments. Young Rainy resolved to follow their shattered fortunes in *curia's* case, changed his profession, and became the favourite pupil of Dr. Cunningham, whose biography he has since written. In the Free High Kirk—the church, though not the pulpit of Knox—he was never popular, though he indicated even more power than he has since manifested; and in the church courts he hung back with a persistent and unusual modesty, till their leading men devolved upon him almost by force important questions, which he handled with consummate power. His special characteristics as a leader in General Assembly (which in Scotland means a statesman as well as a Churchman), seems to us to be candour in debate, and comprehensiveness of outlook. You are pretty sure to hear him state the case for the opposite side more powerfully and persuasively than they themselves will do it; and if he chooses to attempt an answer he is quite certain to give one not barely conclusive, but with a broad margin of reason over and above what is technically necessary. The somewhat scornful candour with which he declines to snatch a cheap or premature victory, and among a nation of "dogmatical word warriors" tosses aside even legitimate advantages in debate, is partly derived from his master, Dr. Cunningham, but is connected also with certain mental and moral characteristics of his own. For Cunningham's mind was logical, doctrinal, and static; Rainy's is historical and formative, and moves in the region of dynamics. It is of course the proper temperament for a statesman. Hence, however, a mental circumspection and roundaboutness, as of one instinctively providing for future developments and possibilities, which spreads a haze over his speeches, and makes them to despair not only of reporters, but of all who have learned to think in sharp logical formula. But hence also a most instructive originality, partly impressing you in the uncommon use of common words, which so used become loaded with meaning, and partly in the careless rough-hewing of the whole idea as the speech goes on. And under both there is a certain moral thoughtfulness, and conscientiousness even of the intellect, which makes each exposition rich and strengthening, even to those who care nothing for the subject. All this, under a youthful appearance and statuesque coolness and self-repression, against which the Celtic fire within heaves in vain. Such is the new leader of the Liberal side of the Free Church—even the Liberal side being what would be accounted in England strongly Conservative of doctrine—and such is the Scotchman, who was wisely chosen to represent Scotland against Dean Stanley.

Following this paper we have one on the Agricultural Labourers' Strike, which brings into

* London: Hodder and Stoughton, Paternoster row.

a focus much valuable information and much valuable suggestion on this growing movement. A slight paper points out some of the marks of Prussian influence on German literature; but such a subject requires wider treatment than is given to it here. Then we have the "Results of Disestablishment in Ireland," of which we have written at large in another column. This is the last article of one of the most valuable numbers of the *British Quarterly* that we have read.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Russian press is again placed under the supervision of the administrative authorities.

It is reported that the cotton worm has caused great havoc in the Southern States.

Mr. Horace Greeley has formally accepted the nomination of the Baltimore Convention.

Before the war the population of Metz numbered 45,000. Now, according to recent German census, this number has diminished to 18,000.

The *Times* correspondent states that the treatment of Marshal Bazaine seems to have become of late much more rigorous, and his wife, whose opportunities of visiting him have been restricted, has taken up her residence in a convent at Versailles.

A Berlin telegram states that the Russian press is again placed under the supervision of the administrative authorities.

From New York we hear that the jury engaged in the trial of Stokes, the assassin of Mr. J. Fisk, jun., have been unable to agree to a verdict, and have been dismissed.

The King of Spain will shortly proceed to Santander to take the baths there, visiting Burgos and some other provincial capitals on his way, and will afterwards complete his tour in the northern provinces, which, it is anticipated, will be sufficiently tranquillised.

THE CHOLERA has broken out in St. Petersburg, but up to July 9th the cases had been few. The collectors of customs at all the ports of Great Britain and Ireland have been instructed to take the most active precautions, so far as the carrying out of strict quarantine regulations are concerned, on the arrival of any vessels from Cronstadt, &c.

THE KINGS OF SPAIN AND ITALY.—It appears from authentic information received from Italy that King Victor Emmanuel, in a reply to a despatch from King Amadeus announcing he was ready to defend his Crown, replied that he congratulated his son on his resolution to act as became a Prince of Savoy.

FURTHER TIDINGS OF DR. LIVINGSTONE.—Mr. Stanley's arrival at Aden has been telegraphed from that port. He started at once in the French steamer for Suez, accompanied by Dr. Livingstone's son. It is added that he "has letters from Livingstone to the Government and friends. Found Livingstone unwell, but determined to go further on, and not to return before completing perfectly his work. Stanley's men return and accompany him."

THE DENGUE FEVER IN CALCUTTA.—Dengue fever is still on the increase in Calcutta and the neighbourhood. It is computed that at least 80 per cent. of the entire population of Calcutta have been attacked by it, and in many cases there have been relapses much more severe than the first attacks. It is a curious fact, too, that in the later cases the suffering have been much greater than in the earlier ones. The disease appears to be increasing in strength. The general feeling with respect to it would be amusing, if one dared to be amused on such a subject. "Have you had the dengue?" everybody says to everybody else. "No!" "Then pray that you never may have it; I have been pronounced free from the disease for the last month, but I am sore (just as if I had been beaten from head to foot, and, worst of all, on the head, with a stick) at the present moment." The cases really are amusing sometimes, for, like toothache, few people die in dengue fever, but to laugh would mean social outlawry.—*Times Correspondent.*

CLOSING OF THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.—July 1, 1872, put an end to the once famous "Freedmen's Bureau" of Washington, the department of the Government which, during President Johnson's Administration, caused such fierce contention between that official and Congress. The Bureau was created to take charge of the freedmen, refugees, confiscated estates, and abandoned lands, consequent upon the war; and as it gave the Government vast power over the Southern negroes, it naturally caused much irritation among the Democrats. The first law passed creating it, President Johnson vetoed; but subsequently, by a two-thirds vote, the Republicans were able to carry their measure through Congress over the Presidential veto, and the bureau came into existence. It was a cause of constant quarrels until President Johnson's term expired, and then upon Grant's accession, all the departments of the Government coming into the control of the same party, affairs in the bureau began working harmoniously. It has fulfilled its mission, and its duties are now divided among other departments, so that it has passed away as a distinctive branch of the Government, the few clerks still retained being engaged in winding up its affairs. Part of its business will hereafter be conducted by the Surgeon-General and part by the Adjutant-General of the army.

Lately, the bureau has chiefly had charge of negro hospitals and schools.

THE AMERICAN PRESS AND THE GENEVA ARBITRATION.—In the New York papers of the 28th ult., the decision given by the Geneva Arbitrators with respect to the indirect claims is published, as well as a report of the proceedings in Parliament on the 27th, when Earl Granville and Mr. Gladstone announced that the controversy respecting those claims was at an end. The *Tribune*, in a leading article, says that the public in America will not feel the same satisfaction at the settlement as the public in Great Britain. Indeed, had the American people been consulted, the claims would probably never have been included in the case. When once they had been included, the only interest taken in the matter was that the position assumed should be maintained with dignity or yielded with grace. Neither course, in the opinion of the *Tribune*, has been followed. The American Government has done nothing, it says, but stupidly blunder throughout, and follow a policy of "alternating truculence and truckling." Nothing is decided for the future; no mutually advantageous principle of neutrality is established. There will be a feeling of relief that the worst is known, and that the opportunity for further mischief is over; but the discredit will remain. In the opinion of the *New York Herald*, when the arbitrators volunteered their opinion as to the inadmissibility of the indirect claims, the American Government might have replied, "Very well, gentlemen; when they come up for adjudication you can so decide." This course, it maintains, would have been consistent, and a judicial decision would have been secured such as the American Government pretended it wished to obtain. As it is, "England's triumph is unquestionable." The indirect claims are withdrawn; they were abandoned before Great Britain would consent to plead; all that Lord Granville has from the first contended for has been conceded; all that Mr. Fish so persistently declared should be maintained has been abandoned. The *Herald* nevertheless thinks that, however much the blunders of the Administration may be condemned, there will probably be universal thankfulness that the matter is settled. The *New York Times* maintains that the course adopted by the arbitrators was precisely that which the American Government had urged from the first. The arbitrators have rejected the indirect claims, and their decision has been accepted by both Governments. A "fair and final settlement" has thus been obtained.

Miscellaneous.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, along with their family and the Duke of Edinburgh, are expected to arrive at Abergeldie Castle on the 9th or 10th of August next.

It is stated that the Queen has bestowed Bagshot Park, Surrey, upon Prince Arthur, as a country seat, and it is expected that his royal highness will occupy his new residence in May next. The estates are Crown property, and at present under the custody of Sir James Clark.

A garden party was given on Saturday by the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster at Cliveden-park, near Maidenhead, at which the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Arthur, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck were amongst the guests.

Her Majesty has given permission to the Prince Imperial of France to join the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich.

Mr. Arthur Helps, the Clerk of the Council, has been offered, and has accepted, a Civil Commandership of the Bath.

The cricket-match between the Eton and Harrow public schools has been won by the representatives of the former, with six wickets to go down.

Mr. Justice Keogh arrived at Enniskillen on Saturday, and opened the commission for the county Fermanagh. In reply to a strong and unanimous address of sympathy and confidence which had been voted by the grand jury, his lordship claimed no merit for having done simply his duty. His attitude would be one of patient endurance, and he would never be influenced by any attempt at intimidation. The grand jury of Meath have passed a resolution protesting against the continued attacks on Mr. Justice Keogh.

The competition which is of greatest interest at Wimbledon—that for the Queen's Prize—was brought to a close yesterday, when Colour-Sergeant W. Michie, of the London Scottish, was declared the winner. He had made 65 points, while last year the successful number was 68.

On Sunday Captain Keogh, who has accompanied his brother hitherto round the circuit, and who was spending the day with Mr. Hamilton Jones, of Belcoe, attended twelve o'clock mass at Termon Chapel. The officiating priest, in addressing the congregation, referred to the presence in the neighbourhood of Mr. Justice Keogh; Captain Keogh at once rose and left the building. He was instantly recognised by the congregation, who followed with hootings and menaces. Their intentions were so demonstrative and threatening, that Captain Keogh had to be escorted to Mr. Jones's residence by the police.

Seven prisoners arrested on Saturday evening were brought before the magistrates, charged with forming part of an illegal assembly, and

bringing justice into contempt by burning an effigy of Mr. Justice Keogh. The prisoners were all returned for trial, bail being accepted.

The number of persons who have visited the Bethnal-green Museum since its opening is 181,125.

Yesterday a meeting of English Roman Catholics was held at Willis's Rooms, to protest against the action of the Italian Government towards the Papal authorities, and against the recent legislation in the German Parliament in respect of the Jesuits and other teaching orders. The chair was taken by the Duke of Norfolk.

CLERKS' SALARIES.—A movement is on foot among the clerks of the various private and joint-stock banks for an appeal for a general advance in salaries. The high prices for the necessities of life, and the increased expenditure essential to maintain a respectable position, are the circumstances urged to obtain the desired end. One or two of the West-end banks are stated to have behaved most liberally to the various members of their working staff at the close of the half-year.

THE NEW SEASONS TEAS.—The once famous race of clipper sailing-ships bringing consignments of the first new teas for the London market is already a thing of the past, and the earliest cargoes to reach London this year will be those brought by steamships belonging to the Peninsular and Oriental Navigation Company's fleet, four of which—the Sunda, the Deccan, the Malacca, and the Hindustan—were some time since told off by the directors for this special service—making the passage home via the Suez Canal. The arrival of the Deccan in the port of London is confidently expected on or about the 14th inst.

BURNING OF A CHURCH AT PADDINGTON.—About nine o'clock on Saturday morning the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Paddington, at which the Rev. R. Temple West officiates, was destroyed by fire, with the exception of the chancel. The church was opened about four years ago, and cost about 30,000*l.* The roof, that had just been built, cost an extra 4,000*l.* Fortunately the organ, worth 1,600*l.*, has not been destroyed by fire, on account of its being situate in the transept, which is protected by a brick and groined wall, but it is seriously damaged by water. Two of the firemen have been seriously injured by the falling of some timber, and are lying at St. Mary's Hospital. Through the energy of the workmen the altar and its fittings, worth 200*l.*, were saved. The fire was caused by the ignition of some felt lining by a candle used by one of the workmen.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.—Mr. Stansfeld's Public Health Bill has been reprinted, as "amended." The clauses relating to the appointment of sanitary authorities, urban and rural, remain; but all from Clause 32 to Clause 69 have been struck out. These clauses defined and prohibited nuisances and pollutions of streams, and required the ventilation of sewers and drains and the cleansing of streets and earth and other closets. A right of entry into houses to inspect the condition of drains was given. The Nuisances Removal Act of 1863 was extended to milk and tea. A penalty of 20*l.* might be inflicted for the sale of unsound human food; and a search warrant might be granted on reasonable cause shown. A clause contained provisions for the closing of foul wells and pumps, and of buildings unfit for habitation. There were provisions for testing and securing the purity of water supply, regulations relating to gas, stipulations for hospital accommodation for persons having dangerous diseases and also for disinfecting apparatus. The Local Government Board was to have power to direct the establishment of dispensaries, and might also require mortuaries to be provided. There was a penalty on giving a false answer when letting as to the recent existence of infectious disease in the house. All these and some other clauses connected with them are now out of the bill.

SCHOOL EXCURSION TO CHISLEHURST.—The annual excursion of the Marlborough Chapel Associated Schools took place on Wednesday. The parent school at Marlborough Chapel, the branch school at Oakley-place, and the St. George's-road Congregational School, forming one party a thousand strong, spent a pleasant day at Chislehurst. The ex-Emperor Napoleon had granted the use of Camden Park, and the privilege was gladly availed of. The weather was brilliant. Cricket, croquet, and other games helped to engage and amuse the scholars. After a general gathering for singing and tea, a procession, with Union Jack and tri-coloured flags, walked through the magnificent park to Camden House, and, forming a line, sang, "Pilgrims of the Night." While singing, the Emperor, accompanied by the Prince Imperial, made his appearance. They were received with repeated cheers. Mr. George Payne, the superintendent of the parent school, expressed the deep obligation under which the institution lay for the kindness which had been shown. Mr. E. S. Hardy, the superintendent of the St. George's-road School, presented His Majesty with a copy of the anniversary hymns. While the Emperor was speaking, the Empress Eugenie approached, and was received with enthusiastic demonstrations. In the most courteous manner Her Majesty made kindly inquiries of the pastor, the Rev. W. A. Essery, as to the enjoyments of the day. The royal party then retired amidst the repeated cheering of the assembly. The result of the indefatigable exertions of Mr. H. Lewis, the superintendent, and Mr. W. E. Tucker, the secretary of the branch school, was that all the arrangements were most satisfactorily carried out.

LORD SHAFTESBURY ON THE CAUSE OF PAUPERISM.—The Earl of Shaftesbury presided on Saturday at the annual meeting, in the Library of the Social Science Association, of the Metropolitan and Provincial Poor Law Officers' Association. At the close of the ordinary business of the meeting his lordship expressed the great pleasure with which he found that the Poor Law officers had so becoming and excellent an organisation for the maintenance of their position and the protection of their interests. He spoke in high terms of the value of the deliberations of a body of men whose daily business it was to sift out the merits of all cases of applications for poor-relief. If the poor were treated with the consideration to which they were entitled—if they were given a fair field and no favour, he was not sure that even for the struggling classes at the present time this country was not the best on the face of the earth. Of one thing he was very certain—that in the domiciliary conditions which prevailed in all large towns lay the main source, the cause of nearly all the pauperism. If they, going constantly among the people to inquire and report, could do anything to mitigate those conditions, they would accomplish more towards the solution of the troublesome problem of pauperism than all the agencies heretofore put into operation. He had been at work for the last forty years trying to grapple with the evil and effect some improvement, and he did not think he was very much farther forward than when he began. Improved, however, the homes of the people must be, or they would some day have a moral pestilence overtaking them that would overwhelm society and bid defiance to all their efforts. He trusted that attention would be given to the matter, and that the mischief would be corrected ere it was too late.

THE CONFERENCE ON INTemperance.—The National Union for Suppression of Intemperance met in conference on Friday in the Hanover-square Rooms. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided. Among those present were the Bishop of Gloucester, Mr. Thos. Brassey, M.P., Mr. John Hardy, M.P., the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Wharnclyffe, Mr. Forsyth, Q.C., Mr. J. W. Pease, M.P., and the Marquis of Hertford. The first resolution was proposed by the Bishop of Gloucester, and seconded by Mr. John Brassey. It approved of the course pursued by the National Union. The second resolution, recommending the union to public support, was proposed by the Earl of Shrewsbury, and seconded by Lord Wharnclyffe; and the third, appealing for a special fund of 5,000*l.*, was proposed by Mr. Forsyth, Q.C., and seconded by Mr. John Pease, M.P. The Earl of Shaftesbury, in acknowledging the closing vote of thanks, said he had never heard speeches containing such good sense in the course of his life, for they had added very much to his stock of knowledge. He believed that intoxication was the great vice of the age, and that they might take it as a sort of negative comfort, that if it had not been for the teetotal movement the drinking habits of the country would have arrived at a most disastrous character, and would have defied all the efforts of reformers. (Hear, hear.) He believed that the domestic purity of families had been very materially affected by what was called "the Wine Act," which enabled grocers to sell spirits. The spirits thus obtained from grocers he believed had very generally been consumed by working men's wives and families. They contributed 2*s.* or 2*s.* 6*d.* apiece in a sort of club, and then, under pretence of buying tea, obtained spirits, on which possibly they did not get drunk, but which fuddled them all the week. He believed that the physical condition of hundreds of thousands of our working classes was injured by this pernicious system.

Cleanings.

The last Californian earthquake had the effect of suddenly curing several lame beggars in San Francisco.

"Will your puppy bite?" drawled a languid young "exquisite" to the owner of a beautiful little Scotch terrier. "Yes—but he isn't a cannibal," was the satisfactory reply.

LONDON RAILWAY COMPLICATIONS.—There is an amusing story current showing the difficulties of travelling on the Metropolitan Railway, with its few and not over-communicative servants and its perpetual trains. The wife of a distinguished ambassador, who found this railway an institution since she had last been home, got into a carriage at Gloucester-road, desiring to go to Regent's Park, and found herself at Harrow. Returning hurriedly, and desirous now to abandon her visit, she was showed into a carriage at Edgware-road, which she was assured would take her to Gloucester-road, and found herself again at Harrow!

ANOTHER LOOK AT THE WOLF.—During the brief existence of the Maine Liquor Law, a showman made his appearance in a certain town, with a small, dirty, tattered canvas tent, a half-starved wolf, and a suspicious-looking keg. The admission fee of ten cents was cheerfully paid by a number of persons, who manifested a peculiarly strong desire to see this very common and villainous-looking specimen of the animal kingdom. But the oddest part of the show to the bystanders was that one visitor went in "to take another look at that wolf" no less than seven times during the afternoon. The secret was at last revealed. After some unsuccessful attempts to start for home, he approached

the tent door with an unsteady step, and, handing his last dime to the showman, hiccupped, "I b-believe I'll take just one more look at that wolf!"—*American Paper.*

CHEAP BUTTER.—In Manchester and Salford, Mr. G. M. Hopwood has been looking after the cheap buttermen. He has been startled by the prices at which, in the poorer quarters, the "good" and "prime" article is offered to the public. Mr. Nield lately told us that a quart of pure milk ought to be worth 4*d.*; but here are honest tradesmen—men of mark in their neighbourhood, possibly churchwardens or deacons—inviting their customers to step in and buy "prime" butter at 4*d.* per lb. Mr. Hopwood has tested this precious compound, as well as the more costly article which is ticketed 6*d.* The latter contained no butter at all—it was mere tallow; while the fourpenny article was "simply adulterated tallow." It was composed "principally of tallow," with a slight admixture of "very inferior butter." Tallow, even in its purest state, is not to the English taste, whatever the Russian peasant may think of it; but as Mr. Hopwood says, "a compost of more or less rancid tallow, sour paste, and salt, is most assuredly not wholesome—it is almost poisonous; and when such filthy stuff is sold under the name of butter, its field for doing mischief is greatly enlarged." Is it impossible to devise some sharp cutting remedy for scoundrelism of this kind? It is quite clear that the penalties which at present are so sparingly enforced have no terrors for the rascals who at once swindle and poison those of the community who are least able to take care of themselves.—*Manchester Guardian.*

ST. SWITHIN'S DAY.—Monday was the anniversary of this watery saint. In Leeds the day was fair and fine, so that those who put any faith in the old legend will have no little satisfaction in feeling that we shall be spared a deluge of rain during the remainder of this and part of the next month. It is to be hoped, for the general good, that the result will only serve to confirm such simple persons in this puerile belief. The *Pall Mall Gazette* points out that the result of observations taken at Greenwich for the twenty years preceding 1861 proves that no confidence whatever is to be placed in St. Swithin's Day. Indeed, the more it rains on the 15th of July the greater the probability of fine weather. In 1841, when St. Swithin's Day was wet, there were 23 rainy days between the 15th of July and the 24th of August; in 1845, 26 rainy days; in 1851, 13 rainy days; in 1853, 18 rainy days; in 1854, 16 rainy days; and in 1856, 14 rainy days. On the other hand, when St. Swithin's Day was fine, as in the following years, the results were painful in the extreme. In 1842, 12 rainy days; in 1843, 22 rainy days; in 1844, 20 rainy days; in 1846, 21 rainy days; in 1847, 17 rainy days; in 1848, 31 rainy days; in 1849, 20 rainy days; in 1850, 17 rainy days; in 1852, 19 rainy days; in 1855, 18 rainy days; in 1857, 14 rainy days; in 1858, 14 rainy days; in 1859, 13 rainy days; and in 1860, 29 rainy days.

THE ISLAND OF JUAN FERNANDEZ.—An interesting account is given by a member of the "Agassiz Geological, Archaeological, Palæontological, Sounding, Dredging, and Impaling Expedition" in a letter to the *New York Herald* of a visit in the month of May last to the Island of Juan Fernandez, and to the cave in which Robinson Crusoe, or rather Alexander Selkirk, lived during his solitary residence there. The island, it seems, is leased from the Chilean Government by a gentleman at Valparaiso. There are but twelve people in all now living on it, whose occupation is the cultivation of the soil and the care of the live stock, which consists of some fine cattle and a few fowls. The wild goats are said to be as numerous as ever, but the dogs have been hunted and killed in their turn until there is but one left in the island. Beef, vegetables, and fresh milk are sold to vessels stopping for supplies, and especially to American whalers, who are the chief customers. The whole island seemed to be distinctly volcanic, the rocks consisting of basaltic greenstone and trap covered with a scoriaceous lava, the decomposition of which has produced a moderately fertile but loose and crumbling soil. The dark foliage of the myrtle predominates on the hill-sides, but fig, peach, cherry, apple, and other fruit trees grow in abundance, and palms flourish on the heights, though they do not descend into the valleys. Wild oats, wild radishes, strawberry plants, mint, tree ferns, lichens, and mosses grow in great abundance, and parasitic vegetation seems to possess a luxuriance almost tropical. High up on one of the hills was found a bronze plate fastened in the rocky wall of a mountain path, and bearing the following inscription:—

In memory of Alexander Selkirk, mariner, a native of Largo, in the county of Fife, Scotland, who lived on this island in complete solitude for four years and four months. He was landed from the Cinque Ports, galley of ninety-six tons and sixteen guns, in 1704, and was taken off in the Duke, privateer, in February, 1709. He died lieutenant of H.M.S. Weymouth, A.D. 1728, aged forty-seven years. This tablet is erected near Selkirk's look-out by Commodore Powell and the officers of H.M.S. Topaz, A.D. 1868.

The cave in which Selkirk made himself a home is situated near the shore of a bay, about a quarter of a mile to the west of the harbour; it is in full sight from the shore, only a field of wild oats intervening. It is about fifteen or twenty feet high, and as many deep, and stands at the foot of a precipitous hill-side, surrounded by thin clumps of a species of cane. Its appearance does not correspond closely

to Robinson Crusoe's description of his dwelling, with its impenetrable hedges, its second doorway of exit, its hooks for storing away his powder and other valuables, &c., but its situation agrees more nearly with the fiction, especially as regards the plain, "not above a hundred yards broad, and about twice as long," which lay like a green before Robinson Crusoe's cave. The place has been decorated by relic-hunters, who have carved their names over its walls, and chipped away great pieces of its interior, and it is described as being black with the smoke of three Chileno families who have recently inhabited it.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

A uniform charge of One Shilling (prepaid) is made for announcements under this heading, for which postage-stamps will be received. All such announcements must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.]

BIRTHS.

HEATH—July 12, at 4, St. Thomas-road, Hackney, E., the wife of Henry Moseley Heath, of a daughter.
OFFOR—July 15, at Peak-hill Villa, Sydenham, the wife of Mr. George Offor, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

FERGUSON—WARD—July 11, at Claremont Chapel, Fentonville, by the Rev. W. Barendse, Daniel Ferguson of 22, Brondesbury Villas, Kilburn, and South Wharf, Paddington, to Lavinia, second daughter of Henry Ward, of Fentonville.

MEDWIN—BRIANT—July 10, at Trinity Congregational Chapel, Brixton, by the Rev. Robert Berry, minister of York-road Chapel, Westminster, William, fourth son of Matthew Medwin, Esq., of Lower Tulse-hill, to Harriet Ellice, second daughter of James Briant, Esq., of Kensington Park, S.W.

SHAW—BURTON—July 11, at the Park Church, High-bury, by the Rev. Thos. Aveling, Charles Frederick Shaw, of 10, Eden Villas, Green-lanes, Stoke Newington, youngest son of John Shaw, of Northampton-park, to Lilia Alice, youngest daughter of Walter Burton, of Highbury New-park, N.

DEATH.

MARTIN—July 9, at 47, Gibson-square, Islington, Isabella, wife of Alexander Martin, aged 76.

NOTICE.—The clergy and gentry are respectfully informed that Messrs. Doland have removed from 59, St. Paul's Churchyard, to No. 1, Ludgate-hill, where Spectacles and Eyeglasses may be had to suit every peculiarity of sight. Trial glasses sent to any part of the kingdom carriage free. No Travellers employed. Established 1750.

KILMER'S LL WHISKY.—This celebrated and most delicious old mellow spirit is the very cream of Irish Whiskies, in quality unrivalled, perfectly pure, and more wholesome than the finest Cognac Brandy. Note the words "Kilmer's LL" on seal, label and cork. Wholesale Depot, 20, Great Titchfield-street, Oxford-street, W.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Diseases of the Skin.—No case of disease of the skin, be its nature what it may, has failed to be benefited when these patent remedies have been properly applied. In scrofulous and scrobutic affections they are especially serviceable. Scurs and eruptions which had resisted all other modes of treatment, and gradually become worse from year to year, have been completely cured by Holloway's Cooling Ointment and purifying Pills, which root out the disease from the blood itself and leave the constitution free from every morbid taint. In the various Holloway's Ointment should be ever at hand, it will give ease in eczema, contusions, burns, scalds, and infantile eruptions, and may always safely be applied by any ordinary attendant.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, July 10.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£37,905,120	Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	3,984,900	Gold Coin & Bullion	22,905,120
Silver Bullion	...		

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietor's Capital	£14,553,000	Government Secu-	
Reserve	3,396,718	rities, (inc. dead	
Public Deposits	6,265,957	weight annuity)	£13,385,646
Other Deposits	19,737,708	Other Securities	18,722,485
Seven Day	...	Notes	11,637,553
Other Bills	431,148	Gold & Silver Coin	638,861
	£44,384,320		£44,384,320

July 11, 1872. GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOW TO DYE SILK, WOOL, FEATHERS, RIBBONS, &c., in ten minutes, without soiling the hands. Use Judson's Simple Dye, eight colors, 6d. each, full instructions supplied. Of all chemists. The "Family Herald," Sept. 3, says, "A very slight acquaintance with Judson's Dyes will render their application clear to all."

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, July 15.

We had a small supply of English wheat at market this morning, and the best samples of it met a ready sale at 1s. per qr. advance on the prices of Monday last. Of foreign wheat we have liberal arrivals, and a steady demand ex ship and granary at the rates of this day week. Flour was firm, without change in value. Beans and Peas sold at former prices. Indian corn was fully as dear. Barley of all descriptions was in fair request at last week's prices. Of oats the supply on board ship is larger, and only best qualities maintained their value; for other descriptions a reduction of 6d. per qr. has to be quoted from the prices of Monday last. As the ports of call we have moderate supplies. Cargoes of wheat are steady in value. Indian corn is the turn dealer.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	PEAS—	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent,	s. d.	Grey ..	32 to 34
red ..	— to —	Maple ..	37 40
Ditto new ..	52 to 61	White ..	36 39
White ..	—	Boilers ..	36 39
new ..	58 65	Foreign ..	36 38
Foreign red ..	55 57		
white ..	59 62		
BARLEY—		RYE ..	36 38
English malting	29 32		
Chevalier ..	36 42	OATS—	
Distilling ..	29 33	English feed ..	20 25
Foreign ..	28 31	potato ..	25 32
		Scotch feed ..	—
MALT—		potato ..	—
Pale ..	—	Irish Black ..	17 20
Chevalier ..	—	White ..	17 21
Brown ..	52 58	Foreign feed ..	15 17
BEANS—			
Ticks ..	32 34	Flour—	
Harrow ..	34 36	Town made ..	48 54
Small ..	—	Best country	—
Egyptian ..	31 32	households ..	41 44
		Norfolk & Suffolk	39 41

BREAD, Monday, July 15.—The prices in the Metropolitan are, for Wheat Bread, per 4lbs. loaf, 7d. to 8d.; Household Bread, 6d. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday July 15.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 22,591 head. In the corresponding week in 1871 we received 17,497; in 1870, 8,585; in 1869, 14,160; and in 1868, 10,784 head. Notwithstanding the cooler weather, the cattle trade to-day has been hardly so firm. Foreign stock has again been very plentiful. As regards beasts there were upwards of 1,100 from Tunning, in addition to some 230 Spanish, and a fair number of Dutch and Gothenburg. The demand was steady, and the best foreign breeds have made 5s. 8d. per 8lbs. From our own grazing districts the receipts have been only moderate. With a fair demand, but hardly so active demand as on Monday last, prices have been tolerably steady. The best Scots and crosses have made 6s. to 6s. 2d. per 8lbs. From Lincolnshire we received 120, Leicestershire 350 shorthorns, &c., from Norfolk 200 Scots and crosses, from other parts of England 400 various breeds, from Scotland 6 Scots and crosses, and from Ireland 64 oxen. English sheep have been scarce, but there has been a moderate show of foreign. The demand has been steady, and the best Downs and half-breeds have made 6s. 6d. and occasionally 6s. 8d. per 8lbs. Lambs have been steady, at from 7s. 6d. to 8s. per 8lbs. Calves have sold at full prices, with a moderate demand. Pigs have been quiet, at late rates.

Per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	3	2	to	3	6	Prime Southdown	6	4	6	8
Second quality	3	10	4	6		Large coarse calves	4	8	5	0
Prime large oxen	5	8	5	10		Prime small	5	6	6	0
Prime Scots	6	0	6	2		Large hogs	3	8	4	4
Coarse inf. sheep	4	0	4	8		Neat sm. porkers	4	8	5	0
Second quality	5	0	5	6		Lamb	7	6	9	0
Pr. coarse woolled	5	10	6	2						

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, July 15.—Short supplies of meat have been on sale. The trade has been good at our quotations.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.		
Inferior beef	3	4	to	4	0	Middling do.	5	0	to	5	4
Middling do.	4	2	4	8		Prime do.	5	8	6	8	
Prime large do.	5	0	5	6		Large pork	3	8	4	2	
Prime small do.	5	6	5	8		Small do.	4	8	5	0	
Veal	5	0	5	8		Lamb	7	0	8	0	
Inferior Mutton	4	8	5	0							

PROVISIONS, Monday, July 15.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 917 firkins butter and 4,260 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 22,025 packages butter, 2,760 bales and 239 boxes bacon. There was a little business done in the Irish butter market last week. A few fine Clonmells sold at 10s., and Limericks at 9s. free on board; in Corks no change. Foreign has sold rather better. Best Dutch advanced to 10s. to 10s. Bacon wet a steady sale. No alteration in the value of best Waterford, but Limerick improved 2s. and Hamburg 4s. per cwt.

HOPS.—BOROUGH, Monday, July 15.—The business transacted during the past week has been of a very limited character, consumers buying only for immediate consumption. New hops and colony yearlings attract the most attention, and both can be obtained on slightly easier terms. There is no new feature to remark in the plantation reports, which are generally favourable, the bine is making good progress; vermin, however, is still to be found. Foreign advices quote the crop prospects to be generally good, except in the Poperinghe district, where fly still prevails. The New York market is quiet, with firm prices. Mid and East Kent, 10s. 10s., 12s. 12s., to 17s.; Weald, 8s. 10s., 9s. 9s., to 10s. 10s.; Sussex, 7s. 15s., 8s. 8s., to 9s. 9s.; Farnham and country, 11s. 11s., 13s. to 16s. Yearlings—Mid and East Kent, 3s., 4s. 4s., to 6s. 10s.; Weald of Kent, 3s., 4s., to 5s. 15s.; Sussex, 3s. 5s., 3s. 15s., to 5s. 12s.; Farnham and country, 6s. to 7s.; Olds, 1s. 5s., 1s. 10s. to 2s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, July 15.—Tolerably good supplies of potatoes have been on sale. The demand has been inactive, at about late rates. Old, 3s. to 6s. per cwt.; New Ware, 6s. 6d. to 8s.; new kidneys, 8s. to 10s.

SEED, Monday, July 15.—Scarcely any cloverseed offering, and few buyers for any descriptions. Holders of American do not press sales, and prices are nominally the same as previously. In trefoil no occurrence to change its value. New English rape was shown of good quality, and holds at prices beyond the views of buyers. French, also, of good quality, to be delivered hereafter, could be secured at 63s. per qr. cost, freight, and insurance. White mustardseed in small quantities could be sold at full rates, but there was nothing pressing in brown. Canaryseed supported previous values. Large hempseed was quite as dear.

WOOL, Monday, July 15.—Not much business has been doing in English wool; in some instances less money has been taken, but as there has been no disposition to press sales, prices show no perceptible alteration.

OIL, Monday, July 15.—Linseed oil has been firmer, and rape has been steady. Other oils have supported late rates, with a fair demand.

TALLOW, Monday, July 15.—Market firm. Old Y.C., spot, 43s. 6d., new 47s. per cwt. Town tallow, 41s. net cash.

COAL, Monday, July 15.—Factors realised an advance on last day's rate. Hetton's Lyons, 27s. 9d.; Hartlepool East, 29s. 6d., Lambtons, 29s. 6d.—Ships fresh arrived 27, ships at sea 5.

Advertisements.

REQUIRED, about the beginning of September, a CERTIFICATED TEACHER, as Mistress of a Mixed School in the village of Gosfield. There are now about 120 Boys and Girls in the School, which is in a highly satisfactory condition of instruction and discipline. No one need apply who has not had some years' experience as mistress of a school. The Mistress will be required to assist in an Evening School during the Winter. Salary, with Emoluments, not less than £70 per Annum, and apartments found. £5 extra for Sunday-school duties.—Apply, by letter, to Samuel Courtald, Esq., Gosfield Hall, near Halstead.

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Physician—Dr. BARR MEADOWS, 49, Dover-street, W. Patients attend at 227, Gray's-inn-road, King's-cross, on Mondays and Thursdays, and at 10, Mitre-street, Aldgate, on Wednesdays and Fridays. Mornings at Ten; Evenings, Six till Nine.

Free to the necessitous poor; payment required from other applicants.

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SMITH and CO., having no interest in selling any particular Machine, are enabled to recommend impartially the one best suited for the work to be done, and offer this GUARANTEE to their Customers:—Any Machine sold by them may be EXCHANGED after one month's trial, for any other kind, without charge for use.

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CHLORALUM. An odourless, non-poisonous disinfectant. The saline antiseptic. Harmless as common salt.

15, Pembroke-road, Dublin,

11th September, 1871.

Sir,—I beg to state that the chloralum powder and solution have been largely employed in this city, and with the most complete success.

The bed of the River Liffey, which emitted a very offensive odour during the recent warm weather, was most satisfactorily disinfected by chloralum powder at the rate of only one pound per 25 square feet.

I have found it most efficacious as a purifier of stables, and I use it constantly in my own house. Altogether, I may say of chloralum that it is a very valuable sanitary agent, and one which is certain to come into general use.

I remain, your obedient servant,

CHAS. A. CAMERON, M.D.

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Casks, 1 cwt., for 15s., and in 6d. and 1s. packets.

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YOUNG NURSE WANTED in a Christian family residing in the suburbs of London. Must be experienced in the management of children and a good needlewoman.—Address, stating age, last situation, and wages expected, to H. S. F., care of Messrs. S. Straker and Sons, 124, Fenchurch-street, London.

SCHOLASTIC.—A Congregational Minister wishes to place his DAUGHTER (aged 16) in a good SCHOOL. She is tall, of pleasing address, and a good pianist. As an equivalent for the completion of her own education, she will be prepared to instruct the Junior Pupils in Music and the elements of French.—Address, Rev. A. B., care of Snow and Son, Paternoster-row, London.

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Miss DIXIE, who has succeeded her Aunt, Miss Fletcher, in the Establishment which she so long and successfully conducted, will continue to RECEIVE YOUNG LADIES as Resident and Daily Pupils.

Miss Dixie endeavours to combine the advantages of a sound, first-class Education with the comforts of a happy Christian home.

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SCHOOL for YOUNG GENTLEMEN.—This School has been conducted for ten years by the Rev. HARDWICK SMITH, B.A. He aims, by careful domestic arrangements, by the employment of efficient Masters, and by unremitting personal attention, to provide a genuine, high-class, and religious education. Pupils are prepared for all the Public Examinations. Backward and delicate Boys receive special care. The situation is all that could be wished. The House and Schoolrooms are spacious, with a good Playground and Cricket-field. The terms, which are according to age on entrance, are from 35 Guineas. Full particulars, with references to the Parents of Pupils, may be had on application.

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Conducted by the Rev. W. MILNE, M.A., and Sons.
Terms, inclusive, from 30 to 40 Guineas.
School will be RE-OPENED WEDNESDAY, 24th July. Reference permitted to Rev. J. Kennedy, M.A., D.D., London; Rev. W. Leask, D.D., London; Rev. C. Dukes, M.A., London; Rev. A. Goodrich, Braintree; and the Parents of pupils.

ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG GENTLEMEN, HEATHFIELD HOUSE, PARKSTONE—between Poole and Bournemouth.

This Establishment, conducted by Rev. WALTER GILL, aided by competent Masters, will re-open (D.V.), on THURSDAY, August 1st.
Terms moderate. Educational training thorough and comprehensive. Reference to parents of pupils.

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There are a few VACANCIES, which may be filled on moderate terms. Educational advantages great, and domestic arrangements unusually good. Efficient Masters in attendance. Resident English and Foreign Governesses. Pupils prepared for the Public Examinations. Training Class for Little Girls under ten years of age.
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CAMBRIDGE HOUSE SCHOOL, 120, HAGLEY-ROAD, EDGBASTON, near BIRMINGHAM, conducted by Mr. FREDERIC EWEN, with the aid of competent Masters, will reopen on TUESDAY, July 30th.

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The Course of Instruction includes, besides the usual English Studies, Algebra and Geometry; Book-keeping; Natural Science; Elocution, English Composition and Literature; the Latin, Greek, and French and German Languages.

Pupils are prepared for the Oxford or Cambridge Local Examinations.

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MARTIN F. SHORT, Esq., B.A., and Prizeman of Corp. Christi College, Cambridge, Classics and English Language.

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The PRIZES will be distributed at the School House by SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., M.P., on TUESDAY, July 23, 1872, when an Address will be delivered by the Rev. THOMAS BINNEY on the subject of "Middle-class Female Education," in connection with the Inauguration of the East Anglian Girls' College, Bishop's Stortford.

A Cold Collation will be provided for Ladies and Gentlemen in the Dining Hall, at which EDWARD GRIMWADE, Esq., J.P. (Chairman of the Company), will preside, and the meeting will be addressed by various friends.

Tickets for the Luncheon to be had of Mr. A. Boardman, Bishop's Stortford.

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PRINCIPAL: The Rev. SAMUEL NEWTH, M.A.

Arrangements for Session 1872-73.

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY.

Homiletics	Rev. THOMAS BINNEY.
Dogmatic Theology	Rev. JOHN STOUGHTON, D.D.
Apologetics	Rev. JOHN KENNEDY, D.D.
New Testament Exegesis	THE PRINCIPAL.
Old Testament Exegesis	Rev. MAURICE NENNER.
Ecclesiastical History	THE PRINCIPAL.

FACULTY OF ARTS.

Logic and Mental Philosophy	Rev. J. RADFORD THOMSON, M.A.
Mathematics and Natural Philosophy	THE PRINCIPAL.
English Language and Literature	Rev. LI. D. BEVAN, LL.B.
Classics	Rev. MAURICE NENNER.
German	Rev. MAURICE NENNER.
Chemistry and Physiology	E. B. AVELING, Esq., B. Sc.

CANDIDATES seeking admission in September as Students for the Ministry are requested to send in their applications and testimonials, as soon as possible, to the undersigned, at the College, Finchley New-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WILLIAM FARRER, LL.B., Secretary.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX.

HEAD MASTER—

RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit. and M.A., Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of the Philological Society, &c., &c.

SECOND MASTER—

J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., M.A., Queen's Coll., Oxford; Double First in Moderations, and 2nd Class in the Final Classical School; also M.A. and late Scholar of Trin. Coll., Camb., 14th in 1st Class in Classical Tripos, and 1st Chancellor's Medallist, 1868.

ASSISTANT MASTERS—

A. H. SCOTT WHITE, Esq., B.A., Prizeman in Anglo-Saxon and Early English of Univ. Coll., London.

JAMES H. MURRAY, Esq., F.E.I.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Author of "The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland," &c., &c.

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The Summer Term commenced on Thursday, 2nd May.

For Prospectuses and further information, apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R. H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

INDEPENDENT COLLEGE, TAUNTON.

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SECRETARY—Mr. EDWARD BAYLY.

Pupils WILL REASSEMBLE on FRIDAY, August 2nd. Prospectuses will be forwarded on application to the Principal or Secretary.

THE NORTHERN CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, SILCOATES HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.

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The above School receives, in addition to the Sons of Ministers, a limited number of the Sons of Laymen, who are carefully instructed in all the branches of a sound Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education, and are prepared for any department of business, or for entrance at the Universities.

The School will reopen, after the Midsummer Vacation, on FRIDAY, August 2nd, 1872.

Application for the admission of pupils to be addressed to the Principal.

THE FREE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in relation to Ritualism.

Mr. BENNETT has retracted nothing, and yet, after a protracted trial, is not condemned. The Judgment of the Privy Council, in his case, is a tortuous defence of Ritualism.

The Times has fairly stated the facts in the following words:—

"The cardinal doctrine of his school is well known as that of the Real Presence in the Elements in the Holy Communion. As corollaries from this doctrine, he taught the duty of paying adoration to such a presence, and alleged that the Priest, in the celebration of the rite, offers a real sacrifice, and exercises true sacerdotal functions. The formal question to be decided was whether Mr. Bennett's statements on these points were so repugnant to the Articles and Formularies of the Church of England as to render him liable to penalty for publishing them. This issue the Judicial Committee have decided on all points in Mr. Bennett's favour."

"When it is laid down, therefore, that Mr. Bennett may say what he has said without violating the law, it must needs be concluded that no legal power exists which can restrain those extreme doctrines on the subject of the Holy Communion, which have of late years startled and most justly offended the vast majority of English Churchmen."

Those extreme doctrines are, according to the avowal of their chief promoters, essentially one with Rome. They say, "We give our people the fact, the real doctrine of the Mass first, the name will come of itself by-and-by. So with regard to the Cultus of the Virgin, we shall only be able to establish this by slow and cautious steps. We are one with Roman Catholics in faith, and we have a common foe to fight."

The Free Church of England was originated a few years ago, chiefly to oppose Ritualism, and to unite the Laity with the Clergy in the government as well as the work of the Church. If the Laity had been admitted to share in the power which the Clergy alone now wield, they would have made short work with Ritualism long ago.

The Evangelical clergy cannot go into those parishes where Ritualism prevails, but the Free Church of England can. It can go with a revised Prayer Book, from which the priestly element, with its deadly heresies, is cast out; conduct sound Protestant services; and preach the glorious Gospel of the grace of God.

The Free Church of England has already expended over £15,000 in establishing these services, and urgently appeals for donations and subscriptions to extend the movement as far as may be necessary.

The Council of the Free Church of England invite communications from Protestant Churchmen beset by Ritualism. Donations and subscriptions may be sent to—

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Letters may be sent to—

The Rev. S. J. C. DICKSEE, New Maldon, Surrey, S.W., Secretary of the London District.

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The Rev. J. BRUNSKILL, Tottington, near Bury, Lancashire, Secretary of the Northern District.

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VESUVIUS in ERUPTION, by Mr. King.—GARTO, the
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Nothing can be found at all equal to it."—Court Circular.

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